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MINUTES

OF THE

Twenty-Seventh

GENERAL CONFERENCE,

OF

FREE BAPTISTS,

HELD AT

HARPER'S FERRY, WEST VIRGINIA,

September-October, 1889.

BOSTON, MASS.:
THE F. B. PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT.
1890.

Statistical Table of the Twenty-Seventh General Conference, 1889.

Yearly Meetings and Associations.	Delegates.	Number of Q. M's.	Number of Churches.	Number of Ministers.	Number of Members.	Increase.	Decrease.	Baptisms. ‡
American Asso., N. C.*								
Bengal & Orissa	Rev. R. M. Lawrence	2	10	7	596	38	. . .	80
Bon Eagle, Miss.*								
Cedar Creek Asso., Tenn.*								
Cape Fear, N. C.*								
Chattahoochee Asso., Ga		1	28	13	2,044			
Conn. & W. R. I. Asso	Rev. J. Rodgers	1	10	12	616	. . .	17	
Cumberland Asso., Tenn		2	21	20	950	. . .	19	
Genesee, N. Y	Rev. T. A. Stevens	3	19	20	1,246	. . .	11	177
Holland Purchase, N. Y	Rev's G. H. Ball, D. D., J. H. Durkee, and H. Blackmar	6	33	24	2,600	35		
Illinois	Rev. O. T. Clark	6	21	11	696	. . .	92	
Illinois Central	Rev's M. A. Shepherd and G. A. Gordon	6	. . .	43	2,844	32	. . .	709
Illinois Southern	Rev's J. S. Manning, N. Ricks, and R. McClelland	5	46	32	2,225	. . .	51	
Indiana Asso	Rev. E. O. Dickinson	5	15	19	. . .	519	. . .	310
Iowa	Rev's H. J. Brown and N. W. Bixby	5	43	34	1,780	168		
Kansas Northern	Rev. B. F. Zell	4	13	18	400	112		
Kansas Southern		3	14	12	315	91		
Kentucky	Rev M. A. Jones	3	32	26	1,300	. . .	56	
Louisiana	Rev. J. S. Manning	3	32	24	641	. . .	219	
Maine Central †	Rev's O. B. Cheney, D. D., T. H. Stacy, J. B. Jordan, J. A. Howe, D. D., L. Hutchins, E. G. Page, and F. Starbird.	5	91	79	5,835		220	
Maine Western	Rev's O. L. Gile, F. W. Towne, C. C. Foster, Mrs. J. C. Osgood, and Mrs. V. G. Ramsey.	4	66	41	4,276	. . .	251	297
Massachusetts Asso †	Rev's G. N. Howard, F. L. Hayes, and C. A. Hilton	1	14	24	2,852	173		
Michigan	Prof. R. Dunn, D. D., Rev's W. A. Myers, C. B. Mills, L. P. Bickford, and Mrs. E. C. Copp.	12	97	93	4,370	135		
Minnesota	Rev's A. J. Marshall and R. M. Lawrence	6	36	33	1,521	15		
Mississippi Asso †	Rev's J. S. Manning and J. M. Coleman	4	34	28	1,457	381		
Nebraska	Rev. O. E. Baker	7	30	19	800	600		

Nebraska Northern		3	16	8				
New Hampshire	Rev's D. W. C. Durgin, D. D., L. Malvern, N. C. Lothrop, C. E. Blake, F. K. Chase, and S. S. Nickerson, Mrs. M. S. Waterman, Mrs. M. A. Davis, and Miss L. A. DeMeritte.	7	101	110	8,207	. . .	152	
New York Central	Rev's E. Newell, R. E. Nesbitt, and J. B. Randall	5	31	26	2,233	176		
New York & Pennsylvania	Rev. M. H. Abbey	5	34	17	1,290			
North Carolina Eastern.*								
Northeast Texas.*								
Northwest Missouri		1	2	1	43			
Ohio	Rev. R. M. Cloud	2	10	7	737	23	. . .	19
Ohio Central	Rev's M. C. Miner and A. M. Simonton	5	25	15				
Ohio & Pennsylvania	Rev's O. D. Patch and F. W. Reeder	5	28	28	1,600	92		
Ohio River	Rev's W. J. Fulton and T. E. Peden, and Mrs. Z. L. Carr.	7	51	36	2,990	. . .	34	
Ohio & Kentucky	Rev's H. G. Hill and N. J. Shirey	3	21	13	1,120	107		
Ontario, Canada	Prof. A. T. Salley	1	8	2	379			
Penobscot, Me	Rev's C. E. Mason, F. Harding, S. C. Whitcomb, Mr. E. M. Smith, and Miss L. W. Preble.	8	109	64	4,348	. . .	214	
Pennsylvania		3	8	8				
Pleasant Hill Asso., Mo		1	11	13	715	. . .	85	
Rhode Island Asso	Rev's J. W. Parsons, G. N. Musgrove, E. G. Eastman, and Mrs. E. S. Burlingame.	1	26	35	3,584	82	. . .	472
Shelby Asso., Ill.*								
South Carolina		2	11	4	665	50		
St. Joseph's Valley, Mich	Rev. C. D. Berry	4	21	11	809	. . .	91	
St. Lawrence, N. Y		2	14	13	615			
Susquehanna, Pa. & N. Y	Rev's Charles Clark and A. F. Schermerhorn	3	20	13	797			
Union, N. Y	Rev. O. L. Cooper	5	27	30	1,500	789		
Union Asso., E. Tenn		1	15	12	535	11		
Vermont	Rev's C. S. Perkins, C. E. Davis, and Miss Elizabeth Colley.	6	49	46	2,673	. . .	32	249
Virginia & West Virginia	Rev J. M. Arter	2	17	16	1,082	. . .	85	
Western Missouri		1	15	8	641	. . .	35	
Western Virginia	Rev. J. E. Cox	4	25	16	872	86		
Wisconsin	Rev's J. P. Hewes and W. K. Jackson	6	44	34	1,670	10		
Total, 55	84	187	1,444	1,218	78,469	3,725	1.'	2,343

* No report. † Reported by letter, but no statistics. ‡ Only 8 Yearly Meetings and Associations out of 55 report number of

COMMITTEES.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The Denomination.—Ball, Malvern, Mrs. Ramsey, Hilton, Jordan, Musgrove, and Cloud.

Doctrine.—Dunn, Blackmar, Eastman, Page, and Lothrop.

Church Polity.—Mills, Blake, Randall, Towne, and Davis.

Bible Cause.—Durgin, Abbey, Mrs. Osgood, Bickford, and Newell.

Education.—Howe, Salley, Mrs. Davis, Durkee, Miss Colley, Peden, Whitcomb, Dickinson, Fulton, and Marshall.

Sunday-Schools.—Mrs. Waterman, Foster, Nesbitt, Rodgers, and Jones.

Temperance.—Perkins, Mrs. Burlingame, Hutchins, Jackson, and Cooper.

The Country.—Howard, Stevens, Miss Preble, Coleman, and Ricks.

The Ministry.—Chase, Bixby, Harding, Schermerhorn, and Starbird.

Publications.—Baker, Lawrence, Mason, Nickerson, and Sherritt.

Home Missions.—Brown, Mrs. Copp, Manning, Reeder, and Clark.

Foreign Missions.—Stacy, Miss DeMeritte, Miner, and Parsons.

Requests.—Zell, Hewes, Simonton, Smith, and Arter.

Correspondence.—Patch, Gile, Myers, Mrs. Carr, and Hill.

Closing Resolutions.—Hayes, Berry, and Cooper.

Retained Committees.

Conference Board.—O. B. Cheney, G. H. Ball, R. M. Lawrence, E. W. Porter, G. F. Mosher, C. A. Bickford, J. T. Ward, O. D. Patch, and N. C. Brackett.

Historical Committee.—J. J. Butler, E. N. Fernald, and R. M. Lawrence.

Necrology.—S. Curtis, R. Dunn, and G. C. Waterman.

Revision and Publication of Usages.—R. Dunn, J. A. Howe, and F. K. Chase.

Conference with General Baptists and Southern Free Baptists.—G. H. Ball, O. D. Patch, and H. M. Ford.

BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES.

The Benevolent Societies held their business meetings as announced in the program. The principal reports were printed and distributed among the audience. The receipts for Foreign Missions the past year exceed those of any previous year by $7,000.

MINUTES.

The General Conference held its twenty-seventh session at Harper's Ferry, W. Va., beginning Sept. 25, and closing Oct. 3, 1889.

The Clerk called the session to order at 10 A. M., and, after singing the hymn "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord," Rev. Dr. James Calder read the 19th Psalm and offered prayer.

1. Rev. Dr. J. A. Howe was chosen temporary chairman, and the Clerk read the list of delegates as reported to him by the Yearly Meeting clerks and revised by the delegations present. The list appears in the table of statistics on a preceding page.

2. On motion of J. H. Durkee, an informal ballot for permanent chairman was taken, Pres. O. B. Cheney receiving the largest number of votes. Rev. Dr. Dunn then nominated Rev. Dr. J. A. Howe as a candidate for permanent chairman, and Rev. Dr. Durgin nominated Rev. C. B. Mills. Both of the nominees declined the candidacy, and on the first formal ballot Pres. Cheney was chosen permanent chairman, the ballot standing as follows: Whole number of votes cast, 69; necessary to a choice, 35; R. Dunn, Miss L. A.

DeMeritte, and O. D. Patch, 1 each; G. F. Mosher, 2; Mrs. E. S. Burlingame, 4; G. H. Ball, 5; J. A. Howe, 6; D. W. C. Durgin, 10; O. B. Cheney, 38. On motion of Dr. Dunn, the choice of Pres. Cheney was declared unanimous.

3. The chair appointed a committee to nominate the remaining officers of Conference, as follows: Dunn, Bixby, Mrs. Ramsey, Chase, Reeder, Clark, and Jackson. The committee nominated George F. Mosher for standing clerk and treasurer, to be elected by ballot; Bixby for 1st assistant moderator, and Durgin for 2d; Patch for 1st assistant clerk, and Hilton for 2d. The report was accepted, and the nominees were elected as therein provided for.

4. The program, prepared by the Conference Board, was adopted as follows [all but two of the papers announced in the program were presented]: —

PROGRAM.

ORGANIZATION.—Called to order by the Standing Clerk, G. F. Mosher; Singing of Conference Hymn; Prayer; Temporary Chairman appointed; List of members-elect presented by the Clerk; Moderator chosen by ballot; Appointment of a committee by the Chair to nominate the other officers of the Conference; Appointment of a committee by the Chair to assign members their seats; Appointment of a committee by the Chair to fix the hours of meeting; Reading the Constitution and Rules; Report of the Conference Board, O. B. Cheney, Chairman.

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS.—Conference Sermon at 3 P. M., by Prof. Ashmun T. Salley, A. M., of Hillsdale College; Announcement by the Chair of the Standing Committees, Thursday morning, September 26;

Communion services and the report of the Committee on Necrology, Sunday P. M., September 29, Silas Curtis, Chairman.

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS AT REGULAR MEETINGS.—Religious exercises; Reading of records; Calling of Roll of the members of the Conference; Resolutions, questions, etc., introduced and referred to committees.

REGULAR BUSINESS IN ORDER.—Reading letters of Yearly Meetings and Associations; Reports of delegates to other bodies; Delegates from other bodies introduced; Treasurer's report; Report of Printing Establishment, A. L. Gerrish, Secretary; Report of Historical Committee, J. J. Butler, Chairman; Report of Committee on Revision of Usages, R. Dunn, Chairman; Report of the vote of the Yearly Meetings on revision of the Constitution, by the Standing Clerk.

HOME MISSIONS.—"Relation of Home Missions to Denominational Growth," by R. M. Lawrence, Minneapolis, Minn.; "Free Baptists in Cities," R. D. Lord, Brooklyn, N. Y.; "Utility of General Agency Work," H. M. Ford, Lansing, Mich.; "Is the Union of the Three Mission Societies Desirable?" Miss Laura A. DeMeritte, Dover, N. H.; Report of the Committee on Home Missions.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.—"Our Work in India," F. D. George, New Hampton, N. H.; "Systematic Giving," J. W. Mauck, Minneapolis, Minn.; "Should Our Benevolent Societies be United under One Board to be Appointed by the General Conference?" F. L. Hayes, Boston, Mass.; Report of the Committee on Foreign Missions.

EDUCATION.—"Our Schools and Colleges," Kingsbury Bachelder, Hillsdale, Mich.; "The Young People's Movement," Miss Sarah A. Perkins, Boston, Mass.; "The Young People's Social and Literary Guild," Mrs. Nellie Wade Whitcomb, Lawrence, Kan.; Report of the Committee on Education.

OUR SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.—"Defects in Sunday-school Work," C. H. Woodworth, Buffalo, N. Y.; Report of the Committee on Sunday-schools.

THE DENOMINATION.—"Our People in the South and West," J E. Cox, Owensville, Ind.; "Our Publications," C. A. Bickford, Boston, Mass.; "The Plan and Mission of the Modern Summer Assembly," E. W. Porter, Blackstone, Mass.; "Local Associations," D. W. C. Durgin New Market, N. H.; Report of the Committee on the Denomination; Report of the Committee on Publications; Report of the Committee on the Ministry; Report of the Committee on Church Polity; Report of the Committee on Doctrine; "Present Needs of the Temperance Reform," Mrs. E. S. Burlingame, Pawtuxet, R. I.; Report of the Commit-

tee on Temperance; "The Colored People and the Ballot," Bernard Tyrrell, Harper's Ferry, W. Va.; Report of the Committee on Correspondence; Report of the Committee on Requests; Report of the Committee on Closing Resolutions. (Papers limited to twenty minutes.)

SPECIAL BUSINESS.—Attended to at such times as the Conference may order.

SOCIETY BUSINESS.—Annual meeting of the Foreign Mission Society, Thursday, September 26, at 3 P. M.; Annual meeting of the Education Society, Thursday, September 26, 4 P. M.; Annual meeting of the Home Mission Society, Friday, September 27, 2 P. M.; Annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Society, Friday, September 27, 3 P. M.; Annual meeting of the Sunday-school Union, Saturday, September 28, 3 P. M.; Annual meeting of the Temperance Union, Saturday, September 28, 4 P. M.

5. A committee to assign seats to the delegates was announced by the chair, consisting of Howard, Abbey, and Zell, and the delegates were seated by Yearly Meetings in accordance with their report.

6. The sessions of Conference were fixed at 9 A. M. and 2 and 7 P. M., in accordance with the report of a committee appointed for that purpose by the chair, consisting of Pres. Brackett of Storer College, and Miner.

7. First Assistant Moderator Bixby was called to the chair, and the report of the Conference Board was read by its chairman, Pres. O. B. Cheney, as follows: —

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE BOARD.

The Conference Board ask leave to report to the General Conference.

Since the last Conference, the Conference Board have held five meetings, one at Marion, O., one at Boston, Mass., one at Laconia, N. H., and two at Ocean Park, Me. The following is the action of the Board: —

1. To fill the vacancy caused by the death of Rev. I. D. Stewart, G. F. Mosher was chosen clerk and treasurer of the Conference, to hold his office until this session of the Conference.

2. G. C. Waterman was chosen a member of the committee on Necrology to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Rev. I. D. Stewart.

3. R. M. Lawrence was chosen a member of the Conference Board to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Rev. A. A. Smith.

4. A resolution was passed expressing the confidence of the Board in the authors of the "Free Baptist Cyclopædia"—that the Board approve the design of the work, and believe it will be of real value in setting before the world the position and work of our denomination.

5. Rev. Ransom Dunn and Rev. J. E. Cox were appointed to visit the South to form the acquaintance and cultivate the friendship of Baptists there holding the views of open communion. This action was taken under the instruction given the Board at the last Conference. The work of Bro. Dunn may be known by his two reports sent to the Board, which are herewith presented to the Conference.

In this connection the Board lay before the Conference some statistics of Free Communion Baptists in the South which they have been able to obtain with much labor on the part of one of their number — Rev. J. T. Ward. These statistics embrace forty Associations and 37,415 church members in nine of the Southern States; namely, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Arkansas, Georgia, and Florida.

The Board hold the printed minutes of twenty-nine of these Associations, from which the above statistics are taken. The number of church members in the other eleven Associations is estimated. Four of the Associations are colored, having a membership, as estimated, of 7,601.

6. At the last Conference the Board were instructed to take immediate steps to secure the incorporation of the Conference as the legal body to act for the denomination. This they have done; but not until their meeting at Ocean Park in August last were they able to agree upon the form of a charter to be presented to the Conference.

The charter is herewith presented, with the understanding that those members of the Board who are members of Conference are not committed to sustain it in Conference.

In case the charter shall be accepted, the Board have prepared a constitution to be submitted to the Conference for its consideration.

7. The time of holding this the 27th Conference was changed to the last Wednesday in September at the request of the authorities of Storer College.

8. The Board voted that fifty cents a day be charged for board at Harper's Ferry during this session of the Conference, to include delegates and all visiting friends.

The Board unite with all our people, North, South, East, and West, in mourning the death of Rev. A. A. Smith, a member of the Board, and of Rev. I. D. Stewart, so many years the clerk of the Conference, believing the Conference will not forget to place the names of men so good, so noble, and so true and loyal to all our interests as a denomination, upon its records.

In the program which the Board have prepared for this session of the Conference great care has been taken in the selection of subjects to be brought before the Conference, and also that all parts of the denomination be represented in the persons appointed to lead in the discussions of these subjects.

The Board congratulate the Conference on the appearance of women for the first time as members of the Conference, believing their presence will greatly assist the Conference in reaching right decisions on questions that may come before it.

It is the opinion of the Board that some one be appointed to visit *all* our brethren of the South, making known to them our desire to form an acquaintance with them, and assuring them that they have our sympathies and prayers in their work of building up the kingdom of our common Lord.

Respectfully submitted,

O. B. CHENEY, *Chairman.*

Harper's Ferry, W. Va., Sept. 25, 1889.

8. The following reports by Dr. Dunn were then read: —

I.

HILLSDALE, MICH , Nov. 14, 1888.

REV. O. B. CHENEY,

Chairman General Conference Board of Free Baptists.

DEAR BROTHER: According to the instruction of your Board, I attended the last session of the General Association of General Baptists, which convened in Malden, Mo., upon the 1st inst.

The delegation was not large, but the four States — Missouri, Kentucky, Illinois, and Indiana — in which most of their churches are located, were all represented, and the reports of the Associations constituting the General Association were favorable. Their ministers do not boast of learning, nor their churches of wealth and elegant houses of worship, but they are "zealously affected in a good thing," intensely earnest and self-sacrificing, and successful in efforts for the conversion of souls. They number about sixteen thousand members, about three hundred churches, and as many ministers. They have a good weekly paper, *The Messenger*, published at Owensville, Ind., and are now commencing a vigorous foreign missionary enterprise. Their doctrines and principles of church polity are identical with those of the Free Baptists, and a more complete union seems desirable and practicable. After a free discussion of this sub-

ject without a single negative vote, some of their best men were elected to consult with the Free Baptist General Conference, or a committee appointed by that body with reference to a more general union. The work and spirit of Christ would seem to require this co-operation.

Upon my way to the General Association, it was my privilege to attend a convention called by General Baptists and Free Baptists at Doe Run, for consultation respecting a local or State union of the two denominations. The convention was unanimously in favor of the proposition and made arrangements for another meeting for completing the work. The general state of society, the prevalence of Baptist doctrines, and the more general belief in free salvation, free will, and free communion, render the field occupied by the General Baptists one of special interest.

II.

TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE BOARD: —

DEAR BRETHREN: As requested by your authority, I have recently visited some of the Freewill Baptists in Georgia and Alabama. They are more numerous and successful than generally supposed. Their churches are still scattered and weak, and located away from large towns and railroads. Their ministers, without classical education, support themselves largely or entirely by secular employment, and in spite of poor soils, small profits, and low wages, by faith, zeal, and sacrifice, are marvelously successful. And this too without schools, periodicals, or denominational prestige. Thei churches and associations are independent, with only a limited correspondence even among themselves, and yet their doctrinal and ecclesiastical uniformity and denominational identity are very satisfactory. They see the Congregationalists, Baptists, and Disciples working in complete denominational unity, with no General Conference or ecclesiastical organization other than churches and associations similar to their

own, and it may not be easy for them to see the necessity for the expenditures of representation and co-operation in General Conference. And yet they are cordial and glad to see and know their Northern brethren, and but for distance and expenses would be glad to participate in General Conference and other meetings. Perhaps the assertion and assumption of identity is the most practical, if not the only possible union at present. But in addition to this, there are three things which seem desirable and practicable. Could there not be men appointed to maintain a *desperate* and *persevering* correspondence until the names of the clerks of churches and Associations could be learned, and blanks furnished, so as to secure statistical reports for the *Register*, and would it not be possible by the action of their Associations and otherwise to secure the circulation of our books and periodicals in Southern churches? And could they not be encouraged to patronize our institutions of learning? Perhaps a general agent or correspondent could be profitably employed for a few weeks in autumn to attend their annual meetings for the accomplishment of these purposes.

These facts and inferences are the best I can report from this brief visit. And as I do not believe that with the present habits of thought and feeling, and the modes of life and labor, the employment of Northern men in Southern churches would generally be profitable, perhaps more time would not have furnished material for anything of great value.

R. DUNN.

9. The statistics collected by Rev. J. T. Ward and referred to in the report of the Conference Board are as follows: —

PARTIAL STATISTICS OF SOUTHERN FREE BAPTISTS.

Association.	State.	Year Organized.	Membership.	Remarks.
Bethlehem	Tenn	1839	500	These have a common origin and a quadrennial meeting.
Tennessee River	Tenn., Ala., & [Miss.	1877	1,062	
Flat Creek	Tenn	1879	634	
Flint River	Ala	1881	500	
Tow River	N. C	1850	1,097	These have a common origin and are in part reported in *Register*.
New American	N. C	1881	643	
Union	Tenn	1872	581	
John Wheeler	Tenn. & N. C	1881	620	
Clinch River	Va		400	
New Union	Tenn	1887	259	
Cumberland	Tenn	1842	1,221	
Original	N. C.	1742	9,182	Common origin.
Original	S. C.	1817	1,121	
South Carolina Y. M	S. C.	1886	665	
Cape Fear	N. C.	1854	1,449	
Pee Dee	N. C.		750	
Union Baptist	N. C.		585	
3 Conferences			7,000	Colored.
Mt. Moriah	Ala	1851	675	
Tupelo	Miss.	1884	500	
Vernon	Ala	1880	682	
Jasper	Ala	1887	459	
Old Mt. Zion	Ark		258	
Western Mt. Zion	Ark		300	
New Mt. Zion	Ark			
Union	Ark		874	
New Hope	Ark		200	
Polk Bayou	Ark		422	
Hamburg	Ark		121	
Mulberry	Ark		400	
Chattahoochee	Ga	1836	776	
Martin	Ga	1887	1,310	
South-Eastern	Ala	1882	1,000	
State Line	Ala. & Fla	1887	481	
Spring Creek	Ga	1872	601	Colored.
Mt. Hosea	Ga	1887	482	
Ogeechee	Ga	1878	331	
Middle Georgia	Ga		274	
Total, 40			37,415	

10. The report of the Conference Board with its accompanying papers was tabled until the standing committees should be announced. It

was then referred to the committee on the Denomination. In due time it was reported back to the Conference, and adopted without discussion.

11. A resolution presented by Dr. Durgin, commending the American Bible Society and calling for the appointment of a standing committee on that subject, was adopted.

12. The committee on Revision of the Usages were authorized to fill vacancies in their committee.

13. The Conference sermon, being in order, was preached by Rev. Prof. A. T. Salley of Hillsdale College, from Luke 24: 49.

14. Wednesday evening was devoted to the reading of the Yearly Meeting and Association letters, which had been revised by a committee consisting of Durgin, Lawrence, and Mrs. Copp. The letters on the whole presented encouraging facts and held out cheering prospects. The following are some of the items gleaned from them: —

The Indiana and Maine Yearly Meetings have been organized into State Associations. In the New Hampshire Yearly Meeting thirteen ministers have died since the last Conference. The Nebraska Yearly Meeting now numbers 30 churches and 800 members, a remarkable growth. In the New York Central Yearly Meeting nearly all the churches have had revivals. The Mississippi Yearly Meeting has 34 churches, 28 ordained preachers, 15 licensed, and 1,457

communicants — an increase of 300. Two hundred have been added to the churches of the Iowa Yearly Meeting. In Rhode Island during the past three years, besides other pleasant facts, one church has been received, two new commodious church buildings have been completed, and several have been repaired. In West Virginia some new churches have been organized. In the Central Ohio Yearly Meeting there have been several revivals, and one new church dedicated. In Massachusetts two new churches have been organized. The Association has been incorporated. Every church has an A. C. F. society. In the Pennsylvania Yearly Meeting three new churches have been organized. In the Minnesota Yearly Meeting an era of church building is reported. In the Maine Western Yearly Meeting 297 have been received by baptism and 176 by letter. Several churches have been repaired in the Genesee Yearly Meeting. The churches are prosperous in the Union Yearly Meeting. Many churches of the Ohio and Pennsylvania Yearly Meeting have had large accessions. The brethren of North Kansas meet in sod houses. Some new churches have been organized in the New York and Pennsylvania Yearly Meeting. More men are needed in Northern Nebraska. Also in Wisconsin. The Bengal and Orissa letter reports thousands losing faith in their heathen religions and favoring Christianity. In Central Illinois increased attention is given to Sunday-school work, and a Sunday-school convention is held in connection with the Yearly Meeting. The same is true in Michigan, where interest in the A. C. F. is appearing. In the Holland Purchase Yearly Meeting six parsonages have been built, the church at Batavia dedicated, and two more meeting-houses are in process of erection. The Illinois Yearly Meeting is aiming to secure its church property, so that in the extinction of a church the property will revert to the denomination. The Kentucky reports 1,300 communicants, and the Western Missouri 641. In Louisiana they are still

holding up the banner. Three new churches are organized in the Ohio River Yearly Meeting. The Ohio reports a net increase of 19 members, with union and harmony among the churches. The Ohio and Kentucky finds a mission field within its own borders. The Southern Illinois is loyal, and hopes for greater progress. The two institutions of learning in Vermont are gradually gaining students.

15. Thursday morning the standing committees were announced by the Moderator, and the Constitution and By-Laws were read by the Clerk.

16. The South-eastern Missouri Yearly Meeting of General Free Baptists, an organization composed of General and Free Baptists, asked admission to the Conference, and the request was referred to the committee on the Denomination.

17. Rev. Dr. J. A. Howe, delegate to the General Baptists of England, reported non-attendance. No report was received from Dr. J. L. Phillips, delegate to the Free Baptists of Nova Scotia.

18. The Standing Clerk reported that the proposed amendments to the Constitution of General Conference had failed to receive the approval of the necessary majority of the Yearly Meetings, and the report was adopted.

19. The Treasurer's report was then read, and after being audited was adopted as follows: —

TREASURER'S REPORT.

RECEIPTS.

The last report of the preceding Treasurer was made at Marion, O., Oct. 18, 1886, and there was then

" 19.	Cash on hand (see Minutes of Conference 1886) . .				$227 63
Dec. 1.	From Holland Purchase . .	Y. M.	Conf.	1886 . . .	20 00
" 10.	Northern Indiana . .	"	"	1886 . . .	1 17
1888.					
Oct. 1.	Southern Illinois . . .	"	"	1889 . . .	19 48
	Wisconsin	"	"	1889 . . .	12 54
	Vermont	"	"	1886 (acct.)	16 78
Nov. 1.	Indiana	"	"	1886 . . .	2 05
	Minnesota	"	"	1886 . . .	10 95
	New Hampshire . . .	"	"	1886 . . .	58 46
Dec. 14.	Iowa	"	"	1889 . . .	12 25
" 24.	Maine Central	"	"	1889 . . .	40 84
1889.					
Jan. 4.	Ontario	"	"	1886 . . .	4 07
March 12.	Rhode Island Association			1889 . . .	26 71
	Genesee	Y. M.		1889 . . .	9 73
	Holland Purchase . .	"	"	1889 . . .	20 03
" 16.	Massachusetts Asso. .			1889 . . .	17 88
" 18.	Maine Western . . .	Y. M.	"	1889 . . .	29 00
April 1.	Nebraska	"	"	1889 . . .	2 53
May 1.	Conn. & W. R. I. Asso.			1889 . . .	9 36
" 25.	Vermont	Y. M.	"	1889 . . .	16 65
June 1.	Michigan	"	"	1889 (acct.)	13 30
" 13.	Central New York . .	"	"	1889 . . .	17 19
	Northern Kansas . .	"	"	1889 . . .	3 58
" 21.	Northern Nebraska .	"	"	1889 . . .	96
" 25.	Ontario	"	"	1889 . . .	2 77
July 1.	Ceniral Ohio	"	"	1889 . . .	13 70
Aug. 1.	Minnesota	"	"	1889 . . .	10 43
	Michigan	"	"	1889 . . .	20 00
	St. Lawrence	"	"	1889 . . .	4 40
Sept. 16.	Louisiana	"	"	1889 . . .	5 66
	St. Joseph's Valley . .	"	"	1889 . . .	6 35
" 19.	Penobscot	"	"	1889 . . .	27 95
" 25.	New Hampshire . . .	"	"	1889 . . .	57 47
	Ohio and Kentucky .	"	"	1889 . . .	7 15

	West Virginia . . . . Y. M. Conf. 1889 (acct.)	$5 00
Sept. 26.	Illinois . . . . . " " 1889 . . .	4 00
	Total receipts	$758 01

EXPENDITURES.

1886.		
Oct. 19.	Paid J. A. Howe, preaching Conference sermon, voucher No. 1	$31 50
	G. H. Ball, balance as delegate to English Baptists, voucher No. 2	50 00
" 23.	I. D. Stewart, fare to Gen. Conf. 1886	29 09
Nov. 22.	Preparing Minutes, 1886, for publication . . .	34 00
Dec. 15.	Preparing copy Vol. II. of Minutes	18 00
1888.		
Oct. 1.	Postage	1 00
" 25.	Conference Board record book	30
	Expenses self, Board Meeting, Ocean Park . .	4 00
Nov. 12.	R. Dunn, part expenses to General Baptist Association, voucher No. 3	38 64
1889.		
Feb. 23.	Postage and stationery	1 90
April 26.	R. Dunn, part expenses to visit Southern Free Baptists, voucher No. 4	44 45
June 1.	Printed blanks and stamped envelopes	2 72
July 30.	Certificates for reduced fare to Conference, voucher No. 5	1 50
Sept. 14.	Expenses self, acct. reduced fare	2 50
	Telegrams to *Morning Star* and *Free Baptist* .	2 00
" 26.	Balance on hand	496 41
	Total	$758 01

GEORGE F. MOSHER, *Treasurer.*

Sept. 26, 1889.

I hereby certify that I find the accounts in the foregoing report correctly cashed and properly vouched.

C. B. MILLS, *Auditor.*

20. The Historical Committee submitted the following report: —

REPORT OF HISTORICAL COMMITTEE.

One of this committee appointed at the last General Conference has since died, *viz.*, Rev. I. D. Stewart, D. D. His place was most important on the committee, as author of the second volume of the "History of the F. Baptists," a very valuable work. Many hoped that ere this time a second volume would be prepared. Several efforts have been made to get this work done, but none, so far, have been successful.

Since the last General Conference a volume of the Conference Reports, including the last Conference, has been issued.

At the close of the fifth decade of the denomination in 1830 the statistics are given in the history as follows: 7 Yearly Meetings, 30 Quarterly Meetings, 450 churches, 375 ministers, and 21,000 members. Our statistics as given in the minutes of the last General Conference in 1886 are: Number of Yearly Meetings, 184; churches, 1,503; ministers, 1,387; members, 82,171. This is not a large increase, but it shows in connection with our advancement in other respects that God has been with us, blessing and prospering our work, bringing many sons unto glory through our instrumentality. We have not done as much as we might or ought, but we praise him for what has been wrought, and would feel encouraged to go forward.

There is much historical material accessible, which should be preserved. There is Quimby's life of Randall in manuscript, numerous obituaries of ministers and histories of churches, published in the *Star* and *Quarterlies*, autobiographies and other interesting matter left by deceased ministers, with minutes of Associations, Quarterly and Yearly Meetings. The new "Free Baptist Cyclopædia," just published, is full of good matter in the same direction.

We recommend that as soon as possible the second volume of our History be issued. This work and others

equally important would greatly strengthen us in enriching and furnishing the churches and institutions of benevolence among us, and extending the borders of Zion.

In behalf of the Historical Committee,

J. J. BUTLER, *Chairman.*

Sept. 20, 1889.

21. Rev. A. L. Gerrish, Secretary of the Board of Corporators, presented the following report, which was accepted and referred to the committee on Publications: —

THE PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT.

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIVED AND PAID OUT FOR THE THREE YEARS ENDING JUNE 30, 1889.

RECEIPTS.

"Morning Star"	$38,996 79
"Little Star," 2 1-2 years; "Our Dayspring," 6 months	4,734 50
"Myrtle" and "Myrtle Buds"	4,345 88
Quarterlies and Lesson Papers	16,739 76
Books	10,148 47
Job work	6,147 97
Interest	5,309 76
Advertisements	7,777 26
Expense	352 20
Notes payable	2,450 00
Annuity fund	5,425 75
Sundries, amounts which cannot be classified	5,064 73
Investments	10,542 07
Free Baptist Minn	339 83
	118,374 97
Cash on hand July 1, 1886	1,827 96
Total	$120,202 93

EXPENDITURES.

Contributions, commissions, interest, and expense	$14,854 72
Books	6,360 45

Appliances, furnishings, and post-office department		$9,252 48
Editors' and Publisher's services, and labor		56,857 80
Job work		2,848 38
Paper		16,854 12
Investments		* 6,836 70
Real estate		1,069 42
Notes payable		1,825 00
Sundries, unclassified		3,031 62
		119,790 69
Cash on hand July 1, 1889		412 24
Total		$120,202 93

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES OF THE FREEWILL BAPTIST PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT, AS APPRAISED UPON EXAMINATION FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CORPORATORS, HELD JULY 25, 1889.*

ASSETS.

Real estate	$19,150 00	
Engine and press-room	8,929 23	
Appliances	16,917 32	
Books and publications on hand	3,629 32	
Notes receivable and investments	29,921 77	
Cash on hand and in Bank	412 24	
Ledger accounts due on publication	3,131 33	
		$82,091 21

LIABILITIES.

Notes payable	$2,325 00	
Certain Ledger accounts	5,338 59	
Due contributors to publications	632 64	
Annuity fund—a liability in a certain contingency	5,425 75	
		13,721 98
Assets above Liabilities		$68,369 23

The real assets of the establishment are comprised in the above amount of	$68,369 23	
and the Annuity fund	5,425 75	
Aggregate		$73,794 98

* Appraisal dated June 29, 1889.

CIRCULATION OF PERIODICALS JUNE 29, 1889, AS COMPARED WITH LAST REPORT, JUNE 30, 1886.

	1889	1886	Gain.
"The Morning Star"	7,878	7,585	293
"The Little Star" now "Our Day-spring"	11,346		
"The Myrtle"	11,082		
"Our Myrtle Buds"	3,619		
All S. S. papers	26,047	12,891	13,156
Senior Quarterly	26,671		
Junior Quarterly	11,750		
Primary Quarterly	10,500		
All Quarterlies	48,921	33,899	15,022
Senior Lesson Leaves	4,764		
Junior Lesson Leaves	2,121		
Primary Lesson Leaves	2,129		
All Lesson Leaves	9,014	9,957	
Loss on Lesson Leaves	943		
Total	91,860	64,332	27,471
Deducting loss on Lesson Leaves			943
Total gain on all periodicals			27,528

In 1888 the president of the corporation, Rev. O. E. Baker, changed his place of residence from Rhode Island to Nebraska, and resigned his position as president and his place on the Board. A. L. Russell, Esq., of Lowell, Mass., was chosen to fill the vacancy on the Board, and E. W. Page, Esq., was chosen president at the annual meeting in 1888. Bro. Page was removed by death before the annual meeting in 1889. His place on the Board was filled by the election of Rev. A. Given, and C. H. Latham, Esq., was chosen president.

Our publications, with the exception of the *Morning Star*, have made a most gratifying net increase in their subscription lists. The Sunday-school papers have more than doubled, and the *Quarterlies* have increased their lists more

than forty per cent. The net gain on the *Morning Star* for the three years is only 293. The average new subscribers added per month has been over 90. More than 3,000 new subscribers have been added to the lists, but the great number of discontinuances have reduced the net gain to the number stated. The Board feels the necessity of ascertaining the causes of this unusual falling off of old subscribers, and so far as possible remove them. The slight decrease in the demand for *Lesson Papers* is accounted for in the much larger subscription to the *Quarterlies*.

The time covered by this report is three years, while the last report covered but two years and ten months; leaving a generous margin for the difference in length of time reported, we find by comparison with last report that the job work has considerably more than doubled. *Our Dayspring* has taken the place of the *Little Star*, being twice the size of it; *Our Myrtle Buds* has been added to the list of Sunday-school publications; these, with the *Myrtle*, seemed to demand the entire attention of some person to act as editor, and Miss Sarah A. Perkins has been elected to that position. The improved style of our own publications speaks for itself, and the style of job work sought at our office — much of which, for want of time and space, we are unable to do — shows the appreciation in which the public hold our efforts to serve and please them. This increase of opportunity, influence, and activity in the business has, however, called for and required increased outlay to meet the demand. More than $10,000 has been added to the real estate and appliances, largely the latter, during the term reported.

Eighteen thousand *Registers* have been put upon the market and nearly all of them have been sold.

The price of the *Morning Star* on its initial number in Boston was made $2.00 per year in advance, and $2.25 if not in advance, the cheapest terms on which it has ever been offered since its publication in its present form. We feel

warranted in saying that the *Morning Star* is now offered to its patrons cheaper than any other denominational or religious weekly of the same size, quality, and degree of originality. The *Congregationalist*, a little larger in size, sells for $3.00 in advance; *Zion's Herald* and the *Advance* for $2.50 each.

Since August, 1886, the *Morning Star* has been furnished to ministers for $1.00 per year in advance.

Two volumes have been added to the "Star Pamphlet Series," and they have had a fair sale. A new edition of the "Treatise," enlarged in size and improved in appearance, has been issued, for which an active and increasing demand has existed. A second edition is just coming from the press.

Our Publisher has arranged with other book concerns so that our people can purchase all kinds of books desired at prices as low as they can be purchased elsewhere, and Sunday-school libraries and Bagster's and Oxford Bibles at lower prices than from other houses.

By direction of the General Conference, the second volume of "Minutes of General Conference," of 1,200 copies, has been issued, a large part of which awaits the orders of the General Conference and our ministers.

The advertising has averaged $2,555 per year, $7,777.26 for the three years, the net receipts of which have been double that obtained before removal to Boston.

The diminution of reported assets is to be attributed to the extraordinary expenses following the removal to Boston, the exceptional outlays incurred in improving the mechanical and literary character of the publications of the establishment, the success of which efforts we are sure will be recognized, and to the conservative method of making the inventory. It has been extremely fortunate for the corporation that while enduring the necessary strain of removal and settling amid new surroundings, a friend of the establishment should virtually add to its assets by donation, the amount of which appears above as the annuity fund, and for

future prospects connected with the same. His act receives the grateful acknowledgment of the Board, both for the material aid received and for the inspiration his example will give to others to go and do likewise.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. L. GERRISH, *Sec'y of the Board.*

22. Resolutions, questions, etc., were presented and referred as follows:—

BUSINESS REFERRED.

To the Committee on Church Polity. — Resolution by Newell, on uniformity in licensing and ordaining ministers, and receiving individuals into the church.

To the Committee on the Ministry. — Resolutions by Bixby, on relief for aged and needy ministers; by Stacy, on Ministers' Conference; by Newell, on literary qualifications of ministers; by Miner, on developing benevolence in the young; by Hutchins, on parish system; by Clarke and Dickinson, on qualifications for ordination; by Mrs. Copp, on systematic giving.

To the Committee on the Denomination. — Resolutions by Sherritt and Baker and Parsons, on denominational name; questions, by the clerk, touching the door into the church, and admission to the Conference; resolutions by Dunn, on contributions to benevolent causes, and on Baptist church membership; by Lawrence, on systematic giving; by Miss DeMeritte, on consecration of children; communication by Coleman, on aiding a church in Natchez; a paper by Miss S. A. Perkins, on "The Young People's Movement"; resolution by Eastman, on women delegates in Conference; report of committee on ministerial credentials; papers by Hyatt, on "Secret Societies"; by Mrs. Whitcomb, on "The Young People's Social and Literary Guild"; by Durgin, on "Local Associations"; by Porter, on "The Plan

and Mission of the Modern Summer Assembly"; and the report of the Conference Board.

To the Committee on Doctrine. — Resolutions by Hewes and Gordon, on doctrinal questions; also resolution on the state of holiness.

To the Committee on Publications. — Report of the Historical Committee; resolutions by Baker, on republication of "Butler's Theology"; by Durgin, on local publications; by Manning, on cheap edition of "Hymns New and Old"; by Stacy, on codifying votes of Conferences, and on publishing action relating to church polity; by Perkins, on circulating Free Baptist doctrines, and on blanks for Yearly Meeting reports; by Miner, on publication of "Dunn's Theology"; by New York and Pennsylvania Yearly Meeting, on reducing price of *Star;* and paper by Rev. C. A. Bickford, on "Our Publications."

To the Committee on Home Missions. — Resolution by Manning, on missionary work among the colored people; papers by Lawrence, on "Relation of Home Missions to Denominational Growth"; by Rev. H. M. Ford, on "Utility of General Agency Work"; by Rev. R. D. Lord, on "Free Baptists in Cities"; and by Hayes, on "Should our Benevolent Societies be united under one Board to be appointed by the General Conference?" also resolutions by Arter, on systematic giving.

To the Committee on Foreign Missions. — Papers by Miss DeMeritte, "Is the Union of the three Mission Societies Desirable?" and by Rev. F. D. George, on "Our Work in India"; also resolution by Dunn, on systematic giving.

To the Committee on Education. — Questions by Mills, with instructions; paper by Prof. K. Bachelder, on "Our Schools and Colleges"; resolutions by Howe, on young people's societies and the ministry; by Hewes, on the Dunn professorship; by Zell, on aiding young men in the ministry; by Page, on the Fullonton professorship.

To the Committee on Sunday-schools. — Resolution by Mrs. Davis, on lesson helps; paper by C. H. Woodworth, on "Defects in Sunday-school Work."

To the Committee on Temperance. — A paper by Mrs. Burlingame, on "The Present Needs of the Temperance Reform," and a resolution by Bixby, against wine at communion.

To the Committee on the State of the Country. — A paper by Bernard Tyrrell, on "The Colored People and the Ballot"; resolutions by Brown, on Sabbath observance; by Newell, on fiftieth anniversary of Conference at Conneaut; and by Stevens, on Romanism.

To the Committee on Requests. — Requests for the next General Conference from Ocean Park Association, Massachusetts Association, Central Association, and Ohio and Kentucky Yearly Meeting.

To Conference Board. — Resolutions by Baker, on raising $80,000; by Abbey, on fund for superannuated ministers; by Bixby, on application of income of said fund; by Arter, on condition of churches in West Virginia; and by Stacy, on Correspondence School of Theology.

STORER COLLEGE.

23. In accordance with a resolution presented by Rev. C. S. Perkins, the hour of Friday evening, from 7.30 to 8.30, was devoted to a consideration of the interests of Storer College. The special aim was to increase the proposed Morrell Memorial Fund, and the sum of $2,000 was received in cash and pledges for that purpose.

24. *Voted*, That Hilton, second assistant clerk, be authorized to sign the name of the standing clerk to the railway return certificates of delegates and others.

SUNDAY SERVICES.

25. The chair appointed Hewes, John Aglionby, Esq., of Harper's Ferry, and Pres. Brackett a committee to supply the pulpits of the neighboring churches; and in accordance with their report, services were conducted as follows: —

Anthony Hall — Morning, Rev. G. H. Ball; Evening, Rev. F. L. Hayes.

Protestant Methodist — Morning, Rev. W. J. Twort; Evening, Rev. O. E. Baker.

Lutheran — Morning, Rev. C. A. Hilton; Evening, Rev. A. J. Marshall.

Methodist Episcopal — Morning, Rev. Ransom Dunn; Evening, Rev. Lewis Dexter.

Free Baptist, Charlestown — Evening, Rev. H. M. Ford; *Berryville*, Rev. F. W. Reeder; *Winchester*, Rev. J. S. Manning; *Martinsburg*, Rev. C. H. Jackson.

Methodist Episcopal, Sandyhook — Evening, Rev. W. A. Myers.

Methodist Episcopal, Colored — Morning, Rev. J. M. Coleman; Evening, Rev. T. H. Stacy.

MEMORIAL AND COMMUNION SERVICE.

26. Following the laying of the corner-stone of the First Free Baptist church of Harper's Ferry, Sunday afternoon, by Rev. Dr. Calder, at which an address was made by Rev. Dr. Dunn, a communion service was held in Anthony Hall. Pres. Cheney was in charge of the service, and the emblems were received from the hands of Rev's

Whitcher, Waterman, Manning, and Bixby, and passed to the communicants by Deacons Anthony, Deering, Winsor, Parker, Wade, and Jenness.

27. In connection with this service, Rev. Dr. Dunn read the following

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NECROLOGY.

Your committee on Necrology would report that since the last session of General Conference they have obtained the names of seventy-eight ordained ministers in our denomination who have left the church militant and entered, as we trust, the Church Triumphant. The following table contains a list of their names, residences, and ages: —

MAINE.

Name.	*Residence.*	*Died.*	*Age.*
Albert Pratt	Sebec	Oct. 19, 1886	68
Joseph Wright	Harrison	Jan. 16, 1889	80
Mark Getchell	Monmouth	July 28, 1887	75
N. F. Weymouth	Troy	Oct. 1, 1887	74
Stephen Gross	E. Bucksport	Nov. 27, 1887	85
James E. Mills	Riverside	Dec. 12, 1887	73
P. M. Hobson	Steep Falls	Jan. 8, 1888	69
Elias Foster	Bridgton	May 7, 1888	68
Elliot Lamb	Weld	June 7, 1888	79
Jacob D. Couillard	Palermo	July 18, 1888	71
Uriah Chase	Waterboro	Aug. 1, 1888	67
Joseph Hutchinson	E. Dixfield	Jan. 25, 1889	78
R. H. Tozier	E. Corinth	March 29, 1889	—
Charles Bean	Scarboro	——, 1889	78
W. Cunningham	Litchfield	——, 1889	80
Peter Hopkins	Milton	——, 1889	—

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

N. B. Smith	No. Weare	Sept. 19, 1886	77
J. J. Wentworth	No. Strafford	April 1, 1887	84
John Morse	Whitefield	May 17, 1887	—

I. D. Stewart	Dover	June 7, 1887	69
John Runnells	Tamworth	Sept. 2, 1887	70
Samuel P. Fernald	Melvin Village	June 9, 1888	79
J. L. Sinclair	Lake Village	Aug. 16, 1888	79
Daniel P. Cilley	Farmington	Nov. 14, 1888	82
G. W. Richardson	Canterbury	Dec. 14, 1888	78
James Rand	Dover	Dec. 24, 1888	73
Simeon Bowles	Bethlehem	March 18, 1889	59

VERMONT.

A. L. Morey	W. Derby	May 12, 1887	40

MASSACHUSETTS.

Chas. H. Smith	Somerville	May 12, 1887	—
John M. Durgin	Haverhill	June 26, 1887	74
Jona. Woodman	Tewksbury	Jan. 18, 1888	89
Alvah Buzzell	Southboro	April 2, 1888	80
Mooers Cole	Lowell	Dec. 5, 1888	73
J. B. Davis	Hyde Park	Aug. 29, 1889	76

RHODE ISLAND.

D. R. Whittemore	Providence	March 23, 1888	69
Ezra Tuttle	Providence	July 7, 1888	71

CONNECTICUT.

J. S. Burgess	Reynolds' Bridge	Feb. 28, 1888	73

NEW YORK.

H. N. Plumb	Elton	May 18, 1887	80
E. C. Hodge	Onconta	Aug. 5, 1887	78
C. L. Vail	Winsor	Dec. 23, 1887	81

PENNSYLVANIA.

Seiden Butler	Chatham	Oct. 19, 1888	82
Hiram Bacon	Austinburg	Nov. 12, 1886	76
D. M. Graham	Philadelphia	Dec. 21, 1888	—
John B. Page	Willsburg	Feb. 7, 1889	69

OHIO.

D. L. Rice	Burgh Hill	Nov. 19, 1886	66
Isaac Fullonton	Scioto Co.	——— ——	78
H. I. Carr	Jackson	April 8, 1887	76
Kendell F. Wiggin	Newton	May 8, 1887	74

Isaac Reed	Blanchester	April 16, 1887	—
Charles Hisey	Warren	Sept. 13, 1888	77
B. Tewksbury	Albany	Nov. 4, 1888	75
N. T. Lewis	Springfield	July 14, 1889	36
T. J. Ferguson	Ohio	——— ——	—

MICHIGAN.

Erastus W. Norton	Sparta	Aug. 8, 1887	69
L. B. Potter	Lansing	May 31, 1888	70
M. Knowles	Coldwater	———, 1888	—
C. A. Shattuck	Hillsdale Co	———, 1888	72
Erastus Ensign	Elsie	Feb. 13, 1889	80
Arnold Knight	Jefferson	March 18, 1889	85
Samuel Ketcham	Mason	March 13, 1889	82
Joseph Rackley	Hillsdale	June 2, 1889	—
David H. Lord	Greenville	June 9, 1889	—
A. L. Whitney	Holton	June —, 1889	—

ILLINOIS.

Wm. Bradley	Murphysborough	Aug. 5, 1889	74

INDIANA.

Israel Luther	New Haven	Oct. 9, 1888	78

WISCONSIN.

Lovel Wheeler	Oshkosh	April 26, 1888	88

MINNESOTA.

A. A. Smith	Minneapolis	Jan. 5, 1887	48
Orin Belden	Champlin	July 9, 1889	—

IOWA.

D. D. Halstead	Fort Dodge	Dec. 3, 1887	76
Robert T. Valentine	Dubuque	Aug. 9, 1888	76
D. N. Coats	Spencer	Jan. 20, 1889	73

NEBRASKA.

T. G. Davis	Central City	April 27, 1887	86
Joshua Newbold	Hillsboro	Jan. 8, 1888	85

VIRGINIA.

Benj. Downey	Folly Mills	Dec. 26, 1887	70
D. B. Kirk	Berryville	Aug. 11, 1888	12

CALIFORNIA.

S. B. Dyer	San Francisco	Nov. 19, 1886	67
Lyman Farman	Los Angeles	Dec. —, 1887	88

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

Chester Heard	Massawippi	Sept. 5, 1889	81

TENNESSEE.

B. F. Garland	Carter Co	Sept. 15, 1887	35

The average age of fifty-eight of the above, that being the number of those whose ages we obtained, is a fraction over seventy-three and a half years.

In behalf of the Committee,

SILAS CURTIS, *Chairman.*

To this list was added the name of Prof. Clarence O. Williams of Hillsdale, so recently gone, making the entire number seventy-nine.

Following the foregoing report came short addresses by many speakers, in memory of the lives and services of those who have gone.

CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY.

28. Stacy presented the following resolution, which was adopted: —

Resolved, That the Conference hereby instruct the Conference Board to establish a Correspondence School of Theology for ministers and approved candidates for the ministry who must have a home course of study or none at all. Said Board shall directly, or through a board of management whom they shall elect, appoint a faculty who shall fix rates of tuition and conditions of entrance on the courses, direct the study, provide for frequent written examinations, and

give certificates of attainments and diplomas to those who may complete a course of study.

Resolved, That the Conference Board are requested to provide, if possible, that the Correspondence School may be ready for pupils the present autumn.

29. A resolution offered by Howe, concerning schools for colored people in the Mississippi Valley, was adopted. So also was one by Musgrove, indorsing the *Missionary Helper* and pledging co-operation in the effort to increase its circulation.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

On the Denomination.

30. That portion of the committee's report which received most attention was the second of the resolutions referring to the incorporation of Conference, which was presented as follows: —

Resolved, That the name and title of the incorporation shall be the General Conference.

It was first voted to table the resolution. This vote was subsequently re-considered, and Mills moved to amend by adding the words "of Free Baptists."

The discussion of this motion occupied considerable time and was participated in, *pro* and *con*, by more than half of the delegates.

Dickinson moved to amend the amendment by

inserting the words "and Freewill" after the word "Free." The motion did not prevail, and after further discussion the Mills amendment was carried by a yea and nay vote, the whole number voting being 75, of whom 59 voted yes. The whole number of delegates was 81, and 6 were either absent or did not vote. The list of delegates and the vote are as follows: —

Arter (W. Va.)	Yes	Foster (Me.)	Yes
Baker (Neb.)	Yes	Fulton (Ohio)	No
Ball (N. Y.)	Yes	Gile (Me.)	Yes
Berry (Mich.)	Yes	Gordon (Ill)	No
Bickford (Mich.)	No	Harding (Me.)	Yes
Bixby (Iowa)	Yes	Howe (Me.)	Yes
Blackmar (N. Y.)	Yes	Hutchins (Me.)	Yes
Blake (N. H.)	Yes	Howard (Mass.)	Yes
Brown (Iowa)	Yes	Hayes (Mass.)	Yes
Burlingame (R. I.)	Yes	Hilton (Mass.)	Yes
Chase (N. H.)	Yes	Hewes (Wis.)	Yes
Copp (Mich.)	Yes	Hill (Ky.)	No
Cloud (Ohio)	No	Jackson (Wis.)	Yes
Cooper (N. Y.)	Yes	Jones (Ky.)	—
Carr (Ohio)	—	Jordan (Me.)	Yes
Coleman (Miss.)	Yes	Lothrop (N. H.)	Yes
Clark (Ill.)	No	Lawrence (Minn.)	Yes
Colley (Vt.)	Yes	Malvern (N. H.)	Yes
Cheney (Me.)	Yes	Mills (Mich.)	Yes
DeMeritte (N. H.)	—	Myers (Mich.)	Yes
Deering (Me.)	—	Musgrove (R. I.)	Yes
Dunn (Mich.)	No	Miner (O.)	Yes
Durgin (N. H.)	Yes	Marshall (Minn.)	No
Davis (N. H.)	No	Mason (Me.)	Yes
Durkee (N. Y.)	Yes	Manning (La.)	No
Denney (N. Y.)	Yes	Nickerson (N. H.)	Yes
Dickinson (Ind.)	No	Newell (N. Y.)	Yes
Davis (Vt.)	No	Nesbitt (N. Y.)	Yes
Eastman (R. I.)	Yes	Osgood (Me.)	Yes

Parsons (R. I.)	Yes	Schermerhorn (N. Y.)	Yes
Patch (Ohio)	Yes	Stevens (N. Y.)	Yes
Peden (Ohio)	No	Simonton (Ohio)	Yes
Perkins (Vt.)	Yes	Sherritt (Ohio)	No
Page (Me.)	Yes	Shepard (Ill.)	——
Preble (Me.)	Yes	Stacy (Me.)	Yes
Ramsey (Me.)	Yes	Starbird (Me.)	——
Randall (N. Y.)	Yes	Smith (Me.)	Yes
Reeder (Pa.)	Yes	Waterman (N. H.)	Yes
Ricks (Ill.)	No	Whitcomb (Me.)	Yes
Rodgers (R. I.)	Yes	Zell (Ohio)	No
Salley (Mich.)	Yes		

The resolution as amended was then adopted, making the corporate name of the body "The General Conference of Free Baptists."

Other portions of the report were discussed, and altered or amended, or recommitted, to appear in a new form. The report as finally adopted is as follows: —

Referring to the resolutions presented by Bro. Dunn [on relations between different bodies of Baptists], your Committee find that by resolution and by practice for more than fifty years the General Conference has welcomed to its fellowship all Yearly Meetings and Associations applying for membership, by whatever name known, which hold substantially to the faith of the Freewill Baptists, so that diversity of names has never been, is not now, and is not likely to be in the future, any bar to the union of all liberal Baptists in our General Conference. That all persons may be certain of this, the Committee recommend that the following by-law be added to the present code: —Article —. Article first of the Constitution is to be so interpreted that all Yearly Meetings and Associations that believe in the divinity of Christ, a general atonement, the necessity of regeneration, the bap-

tism of believers by immersion, and the communion of all Christians, shall be received to membership.

THE ACT OF INCORPORATION. (1) *Resolved*, That we recommend that the General Conference be legally incorporated. (2) *Resolved*, That the name and title of the incorporation shall be the General Conference of Free Baptists. (3) *Resolved*, That the articles of incorporation reported by the Conference Board, as amended by the General Conference be adopted.

We recommend the adoption of the following resolution: *Resolved*, That we recommend that our Yearly Meetings or Annual Associations be so arranged as to include whole States as far as practicable.

Respecting the request of the Southwestern General Free Baptist Yearly Meeting to become a member of this body, it is the opinion of your committee that a Conference with representatives of the General Baptist General Association and the petitioning body will conduce to fraternal feeling and good order, and tend to remove all grounds of friction between General and Free Baptist organizations. Therefore

Resolved, That a committee of three be chosen by this Conference to attend the next session of the General Baptist General Association to confer with that brotherhood, and likewise, either alone or with a committee the General Baptists shall appoint, to confer with the petitioning body, and adjust all questions which arise to the best of their ability, in a Christian spirit, and report their action and advice to the Conference Board, which Board shall have power to take final action in the premises.

Resolved, That Bro. Griffin's letter, asking that the door into a Free Baptist church be defined, be referred to the committee on Doctrine.

Resolved, That we suggest that the clerk of this Conference write to Rev. S. W. Boyd of South Carolina and ex-

plain to him the steps necessary to be taken to become a member of our denomination.

Resolved, That Geo. H. Ball be directed to effect the change ordered in the Articles of Incorporation adopted by the General Conference, and complete the legal steps necessary in the premises, and so soon as this is done Rev. O. B. Cheney shall call a meeting of the directors named in said articles, for the purpose of organizing the Board and arranging for effective work.

Whereas, Systematic giving is the mainspring of effective benevolence, therefore

Resolved, That the pastors instruct and exercise their people in the duty of regular and frequent contributions until it becomes a habit.

Resolved, That the request of Bro. Coleman be referred to the Home Mission Board for their favorable consideration.

Resolved, That we commend the organization of young Christians for mutual improvement and Christian work as a part and parcel of the regular church forces, under the supervision of the pastors, and for the upbuilding of the cause of Christ.

Whereas, The Advocates of Christian Fidelity societies and their organ, *Our Dayspring*, hold special relations to our own denomination and mission and educational work, therefore,

Resolved, That they are hereby emphatically indorsed, and our churches are everywhere advised to organize and vigorously sustain such societies.

Resolved, That F. B. churches sustaining societies of Christian Endeavor be requested to bring them into the same special relations to our denominational work as are now sustained by the A. C. F. societies.

Resolved, That in the death of Rev. I. D. Stewart, D. D., for many years the courteous and efficient secretary of the General Conference and superintendent of our printing es-

tablishment, we have suffered a sore bereavement and met an unusual loss. He had been a pillar in our Christian enterprises for a long time, and was loved and trusted by his co-laborers and the churches generally. He was endowed with fine abilities as a writer, preacher, and pastor, and excelled in business tact, sound judgment, devotion to details, and patience in execution. Caution and progressiveness were happily balanced in his character. Tenacious of his own convictions, he respected those of others and was always generous towards any who differed with him in plans or opinions. He was always a growing man, but especially ripened, broadened, and gathered strength wonderfully in both intellect and heart, in nobleness and richness of gracious endowments, during the last ten years of his life. His character was in all respects beautiful even unto grandeur, and he was consequently greatly loved and is now deeply mourned.

Resolved, That in the death of Rev. A. A. Smith, the Kingdom of Christ in general and our denomination in particular loses a witness and a workman of marked ability, rare devotion, and unusual efficiency. As a preacher he was thoroughly Scriptural, plain, practical, and at times powerful. The churches which he served will not cease in this generation to recall his works and bless his memory. The remarkable enterprise, perseverance, and unselfishness of the man have a worthy testimonial in the existence of the *Free Baptist*, a paper which he founded, overcoming great obstacles, and of which he was the first editor and publisher.

GEORGE H. BALL, *Chairman*.

31. The Act of Incorporation, Constitution, and By-Laws, referred to in the foregoing report, as amended by Conference, are as follows:—

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

CITY OF BUFFALO, COUNTY OF ERIE, }
AND STATE OF NEW YORK. }

Whereas, the undersigned, being of full age and citizens of the State of New York, wishing to form an association for the prosecution of benevolent, charitable, scientific, missionary, and general Christian work; to wit: George H. Ball, of the city of Buffalo; J. H. Durkee, of the village of Batavia, in Genesee County; Clarence E. Brockway, of the village of Penn Yan, in Yates County; John M. Langworthy, of the city of Utica, in Oneida County; and T. A. Stevens, of Middlesex, in Yates County; do by these presents, pursuant to an act of the Legislature of the State of New York, passed on the twelfth day of April, A. D. 1848, entitled "An act for the incorporation of benevolent, charitable, scientific, and missionary societies," and the Acts of the Legislature supplemental thereto and amendatory thereof, associate ourselves together and form a corporate body under the name and title of The General Conference of Free Baptists, with the principal office in the city of Buffalo aforesaid; and do hereby certify that the objects and aims of the corporation are as stated above, and that the Board of Directors of the said corporation for the first year and until their successors are elected, shall consist of the following named persons, to wit: Oren B. Cheney, George H. Ball, C. A. Bickford, N. C. Brackett, E. W. Porter, O. D. Patch, George F. Mosher, J. T. Ward, R. M. Lawrence, Miss Laura A. DeMeritte, L. W. Anthony, Mrs. A. B. Tourtellotte, A. W. Gates, Mrs. Amanda A. Pendleton, Mrs. Ellen A. Copp, Rufus Deering, Arthur Given, D. W. C. Durgin, Mrs. E. L. Marshall, Charles S. Perkins, Oscar E. Baker, Mrs. Eliza M. Jackson, G. A. Gordon, H. J. Brown, C. H. Latham, J. B. Davis, and Miss Elizabeth Colley; twenty-seven in all.

In witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names, this the twenty-fourth day of August, 1889.

GEO. H. BALL,
J. H. DURKEE,
JOHN M. LANGWORTHY,
T. A. STEVENS,
C. E. BROCKWAY.

STATE OF NEW YORK, }
COUNTY OF YATES. }

On this the twenty-fourth day of August, A. D. 1889, personally appeared George H. Ball, J. H. Durkee, Clarence E. Brockway, John M. Langworthy, and T. A. Stevens, to me known to be the same persons described in and who executed the within instrument, and severally acknowledged that they executed the same.

W. M. BARROW, *Notary Public.*

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION.

I, the undersigned, a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, do hereby approve of the within certificate of incorporation and consent that the same may be filed in the office of the Clerk of Erie County, and a duplicate thereof may be filed in the office of the Secretary of State.

LORIN L. LEWIS,
Justice Supreme Court.

Buffalo, Sept. 19, 1889.

CONSTITUTION.

Article 1. This association shall be called the General Conference of Free Baptists.

Art. 2. Associations, Yearly Meetings, and other bodies of evangelical piety, that believe in the divinity of Christ, a

general atonement, the necessity of regeneration, the immersion of believers, and the communion of all Christians, may be received to membership.

Art. 3. The representation shall be one delegate from each body composing the Conference, and an additional delegate for every 1,000 members above the first 500, also one for a fraction of one-half or more of another 1,000. With each delegation a letter should be sent, reporting the condition and statistics of the body.

Art. 4. The officers of this Conference shall be a President, Secretary, and Treasurer, with such assistants as may be needed, all of whom shall be appointed triennially; also a board of twenty-seven Directors, nine of whom shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Art. 5. The Directors shall be divided into three classes of nine each, and their successors shall be elected respectively in three, six, and nine years, after which one-third shall be elected at each triennial Conference.

Art. 6. The stated sessions of this Conference shall be once in three years, commencing on the third Wednesday in August, unless otherwise ordered by the Directors.

Art. 7. This Conference shall have only advisory power over the churches, but may discipline the bodies of which it is composed, even to expulsion.

Art. 8. The Board of Directors shall manage the financial and other affairs of the Conference as its legal representative, keeping a faithful record of all receipts, disbursements, and transactions, and report the same to the Conference at each regular session, subject always to the action of Conference.

Art. 9. Vacancies occurring in the Board of Directors may be filled by the Board itself at any regular meeting.

Art. 10. The President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the General Conference shall be respectively President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Board of Directors.

Art. 11. This Constitution may be amended at any regular session of the Conference by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS.

Article 1. The legal authority of this Conference shall be vested in a board of twenty-seven Directors, nine of whom shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a less number may adjourn from time to time.

Art. 2. The Directors shall be divided into three classes of nine each, and their successors shall be elected respectively by ballot in three, six, and nine years, after which one-third shall be elected at each triennial Conference.

Art. 3. The Board of Directors shall manage the financial and other affairs of the Conference as its legal representative, keeping a faithful record of receipts, disbursements, and transactions, and report the same to the Conference at each regular session, subject always to the action of Conference.

Art. 4. Vacancies occurring between sessions in the Board of Directors may be filled by the Board itself at any regular meeting.

Art. 5. The Secretary and Treasurer of the General Conference shall be, respectively, the Secretary and Treasurer of the Board of Directors.

32. It was voted that the secretary and treasurer of the General Conference shall be the secretary and treasurer of the Board of Directors; also that the treasurer shall give a bond for double the sum likely to come into his hands.

33. A resolution by Baker was adopted as follows: —

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Conference that the adoption of the charter name, Free, for the corporation does not effect to prevent our churches, Quarterly Meetings, Yearly Meetings, and Associations using interchangeably the names Free and Freewill, or other names of similar import.

34. Further resolutions were adopted as follows: —

Resolved, That we look with favor upon the sending of women delegates to the General Conference by all Yearly Meetings.

Resolved, That all resolutions adopted by former General Conferences, having reference to our usages, be printed and incorporated in our general Treatise for the guidance of all concerned.

Resolved, That the Quarterly Meetings and Associations in which Young People's Societies exist be requested to give an hour to the work of these societies at each session, and invite delegates from them who shall have the work of that hour in their charge.

On Revision of Usages.

35. The committee on the Revision of the Usages, of which Dunn was chairman, reported. The portions relating to the Ministry and Confession of Faith were tabled until the committee on the Ministry should report. They were then taken up and the whole report was adopted and referred to a committee consisting of Dunn, Howe, and Chase, with power to perfect and publish.

On Foreign Missions.

36. The following is the committee's report: —

We desire to record our profound gratitude to God for his favor toward our mission work, manifested in the exceptional good health of our missionaries, in the healthy condition of the treasuries, in the size and character of the reenforcements which we have been able to send out, especially in the spirit of harmony existing among the missionaries themselves, and between them and the home boards, and finally for the increasing readiness with which the Gospel is received by those to whom we send it. Therefore

Resolved, (1) That we re-assure our missionaries of our constant sympathy, prayers, and financial support;

(2) That inasmuch as we regard evangelistic work to be an important feature in our mission, we heartily approve of the present efforts in that direction;

(3) That we gratefully recognize and encourage the deep and growing interest of the young people in this work;

(4) That we shall hail the hour when the Woman's Mission Society shall with the other benevolent societies be consolidated under the control of the General Conference, having a fair representation of women;

(5) That since the card and envelope system secures systematic giving, is educational, and gives the Boards more reasonable grounds for appropriations, we urge its adoption in all churches not now using it;

(6) That we recommend and urge the churches to maintain a regular monthly meeting in the interest of missions;

(7) That we pray for a baptism of missionary spirit upon our ministry, until by the concert of prayer, sermons, addresses, and specific missionary intelligence, our churches become thoroughly interested in missions;

(8) That we recognize that the power to evangelize and Christianize lies in the gift of the Holy Spirit, and is given in proportion to personal consecration, and that to secure the results which we pray for, we must be ready to be what God would have us be, give what God would have us give, go where God would have us go, according to Ezek. 36: 23, "The heathen shall know that I am the Lord, saith the Lord, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes;"

(9) That we recommend our pastors and teachers to be constantly on the lookout for more laborers of the right spirit and culture for the foreign field;

(10) That in the removal from among us of our much loved coadjutors, Ida O. Phillips, Tuphan Chakdar, and E. W. Page, while we mourn our loss, we submit to the inscrutable providence of God, knowing that he makes no mistakes. We thank God for the noble work they accomplished, and the good influences which they have left behind them; and we pledge ourselves to meet them in the spirit land;

(11) That we recommend the Foreign Mission Board to consider the expediency of establishing a mission in Africa, and, if deemed expedient, to take measures for the same as soon as practicable.

THOMAS H. STACY, *Chairman.*

On Home Missions.

37. The committee on Home Missions reported as follows: —

This Conference has reason for gratitude to God for his blessings upon our Home Mission work for the past three years. The reports coming to us from the different States and Territories indicate marked progress and success in Home Mission work. While your committee would recognize the timely aid of the Parent Society and the efficient

work of State boards and societies, we would also recognize the earnest, systematic efforts of the local Woman's Missionary societies in our Home Mission work.

1. Your committee would recognize the practicability of State agency work as represented by Rev. H. M. Ford's paper before this Conference, and would recommend the appointment of agents by the Yearly Meetings and Associations as rapidly as suitable persons can be found for agents.

2. The pressing needs and the grand opportunities for opening up new fields in the growing West demand more than ordinary attention. If the new States of Dakota, Washington, and Montana and California are occupied by the Free Baptists, it must be done within the next three years. There are also scores of churches scattered throughout the West so situated in location and financial circumstances that unless they have immediate help they will be lost to the denomination and the cause. We would ask the Parent Home Mission Society to give special attention through an agent or otherwise to the pressing needs and opportunities in the West; and that the Parent Society ask the churches to take a collection on a Sabbath designated by the Executive Board of the Home Mission Society for that purpose.

3. While we recognize the efficiency of work done for Home Missions by State boards and societies, we also recognize a growing tendency in State and local work to forget their duty and obligations to the Parent Society. Such forgetfulness cripples the Parent Society in their efforts to respond to these pressing calls for help. They cannot "make bricks without straw." If the Y. M's and local societies continue in applying all of their Home Mission funds to the promotion of their own interests, or deposit it in bonds or cash for safe keeping (as a few Y. M's are doing), the Parent Society will soon be powerless to help any one, and will become a thing of the past. We recognize the necessity of churches and local boards in dividing their Home Mission

funds with the Parent Society so that it can do the work for which it was organized.

4. Your committee receive with pleasure and gratitude to God the cheering news which comes to us through the letters from the South. The resolutions offered by Rev. J. S. Manning are but a truthful statement of the promising condition of our fields in the South. The success of Storer College and our mission work in the South ought to serve as an inspiration to greater efforts in behalf of our colored brethren.

5. Your committee would gratefully recognize the long-continued and successful labor of Rev. J. S. Manning among the colored people of the South, and would recommend that he be continued in the work. Also would recommend the appointment by the Board of an assistant to Bro. Manning in his work.

6. For the purpose of supplying our smaller churches with preaching, your committee would recommend that they be grouped together under one pastor, so far as distance and local circumstances will permit, by State boards or committees appointed by the Yearly Meeting.

7. We recommend the appointment of a committee of three to draft a plan for the consolidation of our benevolent societies, to report at their earliest convenience to the Board of Directors, referring such committee to the suggestions contained in the papers of Rev. F. L. Hayes and Miss L. A. DeMeritte.

8. Your committee would recommend that the resolutions offered by Bro. Arter be referred to the Board of General Conference Directors.

9. In view of the consideration that the General Conference has now effected a legal incorporation, your committee would recommend especially to our weaker churches that they transfer their church property to the General Conference.

H. J. BROWN, *Chairman.*

38. The Moderator appointed Stacy, Hayes, and Miss DeMeritte a committee respecting the proposed consolidation of the Benevolent Societies.

On Church Polity.

39. The report of the committee on Church Polity is as follows: —

We congratulate our people and the Conference upon the fact that after more than a century of trial our church polity has needed so few changes; our churches remain little Christian republics with a membership which constitutes a simple brotherhood as did the churches in Apostolic times, and with associations which, although clothed only with advisory power, are yet so helpful to our people. We see no need of any great change. A more rigid conformity to the rules and methods of proceedings and work already adopted is, however, everywhere needed, and a more familiar acquaintance with them has become a necessity. Nothing can contribute so greatly to reach this end as the wide diffusion of our publications among the churches and people who adhere to us.

We have had under consideration the resolutions passed by the Wisconsin Yearly Meeting in regard to a central board to manage the affairs of our benevolent societies, to be appointed by the General Conference, and believe the result so much desired will now be speedily reached.

We have also considered the resolution passed by that Yearly Meeting relating to the ordination of ministers by the Quarterly Meetings, and recommend the passage of the following resolution: —

Resolved, That we earnestly recommend Yearly Meetings and Associations to adopt such rules and regulations for the

direction of our Quarterly Meetings and councils relating to licensing and ordaining ministers, and determining the proper qualifications for the sacred office, as shall appear in the Revised Usages about to be published.

We have also had under consideration the resolutions offered by Rev. E. Newell in regard to greater uniformity in licensing and ordaining ministers, and also in receiving members, and are of the opinion that if Chap. II., Sec's 2 and 3, and Chap. I., Sec. 4, of the "Treatise" were more strictly followed, a sufficient uniformity would be attained.

Question: What is the door into the Freewill Baptist church?

Answer: The Freewill Baptist denomination is in no proper sense a *church*. It is an association of Christian bodies of like faith and practice. The churches of this denomination receive members by vote. When a person gives evidence of sound piety, on application he or she is so received as a candidate for baptism and membership, and on receiving baptism (which is performed by immersion) he or she is considered a member. When an immersed believer desires to become a member, such person is received by a simple vote. Such membership is usually recognized by the pastor giving such person the right hand of fellowship.

C. B. MILLS, *Chairman.*

On Education.

40. The following questions, presented by Mills of Michigan, were referred to the committee on Education with instructions that they examine and report upon them: —

1. Whether, all things considered, it is expedient for this denomination to continue the effort to furnish collegiate education to our young people and others?

Answer: Yes.

2. If it shall be deemed advisable to so continue collegiate work, are our people and friends able to multiply colleges in the future as in the past, and to properly equip and sufficiently endow, and so conduct them to assured success?

Answer: No: not if we consider the amount of money necessary for the proper foundation of a college, and multiply that sum by the number of colleges we now have on hand.

3. If it shall be found that we are attempting to conduct more such institutions than it is expedient for us to attempt to conduct, how shall we manage the institutions now acting or proposing to act under college charters, as to make them most successful?

Answer: We answer in the words of resolutions 13, 14, and 15 on the subject of Education passed by the 22d Conference, and found on page 301 of Vol. II. of the MINUTES.

4. If it shall be found that we have more or less of such institutions than we are able to properly endow, equip, and conduct, can any measures be adopted which in the future shall aid in wisely distributing and building up, as well as conducting them?

Answer: We answer by recommending that the founding of no more new colleges among us be undertaken without the approval of the General Conference.

The committee report the following resolutions: —

1. *Resolved*, That we recognize among our people a healthful interest in the welfare of our institutions of learning; and that we acknowledge with gratitude the favor of God shown to our schools, colleges, and divinity schools during the past three years, as a reward of efforts to increase endowments and make efficient in other ways these instruments of our church for extending the kingdom of Christ.

2. *Resolved*, That we look to the government of our seminaries, colleges, and theological schools to persistently

pursue this line of work until they can present to the world Free Baptist institutions second to none in equipment, attractiveness, and efficiency.

3. *Resolved*, That we recommend the re-affirmation by this Conference of resolutions 9 and 11 on the subject of Education passed by the last General Conference, and found on page 516 of Vol. II. of the MINUTES.

4. *Resolved*, That the aiding young men studying for the ministry should be a pleasure to all our churches, and that the opportunity to aid them should be regularly presented to all our churches, with such appeals as may be necessary to draw out greater liberality towards this class of students.

5. *Resolved*, That the duty of parents, pastors, and teachers of the whole Church of Christ is ever imperative of searching out young men of piety and ability, and directing them through the college to our theological schools; and that this duty is especially incumbent on our people in New England, where a marked decline in the number of young men coming from the colleges into the ministry has for several years existed.

6. *Resolved*, That we recommend to the managers of our young people's societies to make the same effort to interest the societies in looking out young men for the ministry that they do in interesting them in Foreign Missionary work.

7. *Resolved*, That we recommend that the attempts to endow at Hillsdale the Dunn Professorship, and at Bates the Fullonton Professorship, receive the aid of the members of this Conference, and be carried to completion without delay by those having these efforts in charge.

We recommend that the request of the brethren of the Mississippi Valley be referred to the Executive Committee of the Home Mission Society with instruction that they thoroughly examine the matter in consultation with Rev. J. S. Manning, and act as they think best.

J. A. HOWE, *Chairman*.

On the Bible Cause.

41. The report of the committee on the Bible Cause was then read: —

The committee on the Bible Cause respectfully report that we have considered the subject referred to us, and submit the following statements of facts and recommendations.

The Bible Cause, as represented by the American Bible Society and its two thousand local Auxiliaries in this country, is one of the leading Christian and philanthropic movements by the Christian people of the United States for the establishment and extension of Christ's kingdom among men. The sole object of the American Bible Society is "to encourage a wider circulation of the Holy Scriptures without note or comment." In the prosecution of its mission it translates the Scriptures into the various languages and dialects of the people of the world and greatly facilitates the work of missionary societies. It also prints the Scriptures in various languages, furnishing Bibles at the cost of printing to those able to buy, and gratuitously to the destitute poor. It sends Bible distributers out to look up and supply any and all who may desire a copy of the Scriptures, in this and in other lands, always furnishing Bibles upon the most liberal terms. The society has issued about fifty-two million copies of the Scriptures, and continues to issue about one and a half million copies annually, of which about one million are issued from the Bible House at New York, and five hundred thousand in foreign lands, most of which are printed on missionary presses, thus making missionary presses sources of revenue and making the money serve a double purpose. In the home field a national canvass is now in progress, and fully twelve per cent. of the families of this country are found to be destitute of a copy of the Scriptures.

In the last seven years the work performed is summarized as follows: Families visited, 5,668,860; families found without the Scriptures, 673,960. This gives a little more than twelve per cent. of destitution. During the last year, ending March 31, 1889, the results are summarized as follows: Families visited, 567,016; families found destitute, 66,951. Again about twelve per cent. For finding and furnishing this alarming destitution in our own land, the Bible Society is the only organization. The management of the society is entrusted to a board of thirty-six laymen, tried and proved business men of different denominations, working upon undenominational lines and sustained by benevolent offerings of the people in the form of bequests, donations, and church collections.

In view of the great work and pressing needs of the American Bible Society and its vital relation to the work of churches at home and abroad, we recommend: (1) That our families, churches, and Sabbath schools avail themselves of the liberal terms of the American Bible Society, and furnish a more abundant supply of Bibles in the homes and churches of the denomination. (2) That our pastors and churches be advised to co operate with those of other denominations in sustaining the Bible cause by their sympathies, prayers, and benevolent offerings. (3) That the reports of the American Bible Society be read and studied with greater diligence and care, as a means of extending the horizon of our vision, widening the range of our thought, and quickening our zeal for promoting the great mission of the Church, the evangelizing of the world.

D. W. C. DURGIN, *Chairman.*

On Sunday-Schools.

42. Report of the committee on Sunday-schools followed: —

In consideration of the great importance of our Sunday-school work to our denominational interests and success, and in view of the greatly increased efficiency given to the schools by careful and systematic instruction along the best lines of Bible study and Sunday-school work,

Resolved, That we recommend the introduction of some line of Sunday-school normal study in our schools and churches similar to that usually given at the summer assemblies.

We are glad that, more and more, our Sunday-schools are seeing the importance of teaching through the eye as well as the ear. Among the many helps for thus presenting Bible truth, we gladly call attention to the Lithographic Bible Lesson Pictures published by Jones & Harris of Providence, R. I. We know of nothing better in this line, while their low price places them within the reach of all our schools.

Resolved, That while lesson helps may be used with advantage, yet the Bible should be the book to which we should appeal as the source of all authority as to religious truth. That simply reading answers from lesson helps will only produce a very diluted knowledge of the Bible.

Resolved, That the cause of temperance have a larger place in Sunday-school work; that we do more in the way of direct teaching, concerts, and distribution of temperance literature; and that the following triple pledge be adopted and frequently used in all our Sunday-schools: "I solemnly promise to abstain from the use of all intoxicating liquors as a beverage, from the use of tobacco in all its forms, and from all profanity."

Resolved, That our Sunday-school work have a more prominent place in our Quarterly Meeting and Yearly Meeting gatherings.

Resolved, That inasmuch as we desire to secure the regular study of the Bible by the largest number of persons possible, we recommend that pastors and superintendents estab-

lish and maintain in connection with their schools a department, the object of which shall be to encourage the study of the Sunday-school lessons by those who do not regularly attend the sessions of the school.

Resolved, That more direct effort be made by all Sunday-school workers to raise the standard of instruction in our schools, both by efficient Christian teaching, and by always aiming at the main object, conversion to God, and the building up of Christian character.

MRS. G. C. WATERMAN, *Chairman*.

On Doctrine.

43. The report of the committee on Doctrine was then presented: —

Whereas, The blood of Christ cleanses from all sin, and the Holy Spirit creates the soul anew in regeneration; and

Whereas, No one can be purer than when "born of God"; and

Whereas, No degree of purity can release any one from the obligation to "grow in grace" and seek an increase of the Spirit's influence; and

Whereas, All true believers agree upon these fundamental principles of Christian experience, therefore,

Resolved, That we consider any efforts to develop distinctions upon the subject of sanctification in the family of God unnecessary and injurious to the cause of Christ; and

Resolved, That we deem it unnecessary to give any advice to our editors respecting their editorial work.

R. DUNN, *Chairman*.

On Temperance.

44. Following is the report of the committee on Temperance: —

1. We, first of all, express our gratitude to God, and our appreciation of whatever agencies have been employed, for the great advances that have been made in temperance sentiment, and for the decisive victories that have been achieved. We do not regard any seeming reverses in our efforts to remove from the liquor traffic the sanctions of law, as permanent defeat, but only as an indication to a ready people that we must be more vigilant, and united, and earnest. We believe that in this respect God is calling us to a conflict whose successful issue is as sure as his own word, or his own existence.

2. We believe that the traffic in intoxicating liquors, as a beverage, is of such a character that its license by government, under any conditions or restrictions whatsoever, is wrong in principle, and, therefore, to be refused by Christian people; that the conscience of the liquor dealer is so debauched that he cannot be trusted to abide by the conditions of his license, provided it is granted him; that the prohibitory features of a license law are more difficult to enforce than a strictly prohibitory law; that the palace saloon, with its sanction of law, is a greater peril to the young, especially, than the outlawed, low groggery, which high license claims to suppress. We demand, nevertheless, of the officers of the law the enforcement of the prohibitory features of existing license laws. and most heartily commend the work of Law and Order Leagues.

3. We believe that it is chiefly due to the liquor traffic that the management of crowded populations in our great cities is coming to be one of the most difficult problems with which the State has to deal, and that these masses are, more and more, coming to be the breeding places of every vice, as well as every peril to society. We believe that this traffic, the fruitful source of most of our crime and suffering, is of such a nature, in itself, and is so intrenched in the appetites and avarice of bad men, that the only right and the only safe way

to deal with it is to utterly prohibit it. For such prohibition we will earnestly pray; and we will put forth our best efforts, in all those ways that commend themselves to our judgment and conscience, to the end that this may be secured.

4. As it is only through the ballot that the church can directly introduce its principles into State life, it becomes our duty in National, State, and local elections to use this great power for the advancement of prohibition, and for the election to office of men committed to this principle and practice.

5. As American citizens we have the clear right, and this right should be exercised, to demand of the government that it not only prohibit the sale of domestic liquors, for a beverage, but also forbid the importation of foreign liquors, on the ground that the government cannot, otherwise, discharge its chief function — the protection of its citizens.

6. In this age, when so much is being done for the young people, and when so much is being hoped for from them, we believe that we should not only do all in our power to remove from them the great temptation resulting from the liquor traffic, but at the same time fortify them for effective resistance, by instructions in our secular and Sunday schools, as to the peril and death that are in the wine cup.

7. We believe that any compromise with this evil, either in the way of high or low license, is wrong in principle and dangerous in practice; and that we should therefore, in our homes, and in our churches, and in our Sunday-schools, and in our institutions of learning, persistently teach the theory and practice of prohibition.

8. We believe that we cannot too strongly denounce and warn the people against the use of wines, beer, and cider, because, under delusive conditions, they are so often the beginning of a downward course, which very few, especially among Americans with their nervous temperament, enter upon without going on to the fatal end.

9. In the name of humanity, no less than of religion, we utter our strongest condemnation of the conduct of those Americans who are under contract to supply Africa with thousands of gallons of rum, for every day in the year, and we call upon our national government to act in conjunction with other nations in prohibiting the importation of rum into that great and unfortunate continent, as being no less degrading and oppressive to that people than the slave-trade itself.

10. If any still suppose that they must use alcohol, in various forms, for medicinal and mechanical purposes, we urge upon them the most careful and conscientious employment of an agent whose very presence must always be a menace to the home and to society.

11. We re-affirm our conviction that so much of peril in our day attends the use of intoxicating wines for sacramental purposes, that such use should be condemned, and, so far as we have authority, prohibited.

12. On the testimony of the most able and reliable physicians, we believe that the tobacco habit, and especially the use of cigarettes among young people, is scarcely less injurious to body and mind than liquor drinking itself. We therefore entreat our brethren everywhere to do all in their power, by words of warning, and especially by their example, to discourage this pernicious and wide-spread habit.

13. We recognize the peril resulting from the habitual use of the various kindred narcotics, such as opium, and declare all such habits as worthy of our condemnation.

C. S. PERKINS, *Chairman.*

On the Country.

45. The committee on the Country reported as follows: —

The present condition of our country is at once an inspira-

tion to gratitude, an encouragement to hope, and a stimulus to effort. The assembling of this the twenty-seventh General Conference of our denomination upon this historic spot, especially to those whose years of service include the period of our national struggle and deliverance, is in itself cause for devout gratitude to Almighty God for that which he has so wonderfully wrought, and an assurance of a completed work in the near future which shall realize our most sanguine hopes, in the emanicipation of the whole land and the uplifting of all the inhabitants thereof. But the achievements under God of the last quarter of a century over monstrous oppression and bitter sectionalism, with mailed and bloody hands striking at the life of our nation, or with cruel plottings and cunning fraud seeking to compass politically the same destructive ends, invite and urge us to renewed and increasing effort, until the foes of the liberties and best interests of our whole people are defeated, and the perpetuity of our government and republican institutions is assured to us and to our posterity as long as God shall have use for them upon the earth. And as expressing our sense of danger, duty, and hope, we offer the following resolutions: —

1. *Resolved*, That we regard the ballot-box as the palladium of our liberties, and the right of every man to a free vote, honestly counted, as sacred; and pledge ourselves to labor, as Christians, to secure the same, as against all intimidation, fraud, class legislation, or political trickery of whatsoever locality or party.

2. *Resolved*, That we regard the advance in education, wealth, and character of the emancipated race, after the trial of so few years, as calculated to inspire the brightest hopes, and believe that in all the elements of industrial, social, intellectual, and religious life, they will soon dissipate our fears and cease to be a special burden to be borne.

3. *Resolved*, That we view with a glow of patriotic enthusiasm the wonderful strides our country is taking in the

development of her industrial resources, and in the increase of her population, wealth, and power, including the rehabitation of the South, and the addition of four sovereign States this year in the giant Northwest; and we devoutly hope and pray that the labor and expenditure for God and his cause may keep pace with our marvelous progress.

4. *Resolved*, That we desire to express our sympathy with the efforts being made to defeat the polygamous hierarchy of the so-called church of Latter-Day Saints in Utah, and our belief in their speedy success.

5. *Resolved*, That in view of the vigorous and increasing hostility to the Christian Sabbath on the part of a large portion of our foreign population, and an increasing desire to make it a day of laxity and amusement on the part of our own people, to which a mercenary press and our carrying corporations pander, we re-affirm the utterances of past Conferences in regard to its sanctity, and would call upon all our ministers and churches to zealously labor and co-operate everywhere to secure the same.

6. *Resolved*, That in the past history of Romanism and its present insidious and persevering encroachments upon our public school system, we see a menace to our institutions both civil and religious, and as Free Baptists of America do enter our solemn protest against any governmental concessions to an attempt so perilous in town, city, or State. And on this historic ground we desire to pledge ourselves anew to untiring vigilance in the defense of those rights and liberties for which so many of our bravest so recently sacrificed their lives.

7. *Resolved*, That we recognize the providence of God in dealing with us as a nation, in bringing us, after the liberation of the slave, to the practical solution of the great problems of Temperance, Labor, and Capital, and pledge ourselves to an unswerving devotion to the principles of Gospel purity and of the brotherhood of the family of Christ, which

must settle aright every question affecting the welfare of our race.

G. N. HOWARD, *Chairman.*

On the Ministry.

46. Report of the committee on the Ministry then followed: —

1. *Resolved*, That it is the opinion of the Conference that the churches should settle and dismiss their pastors by the advice and assistance of councils hereinafter provided.

2. *Resolved*, That we recommend that each Yearly Meeting and Association appoint a standing council on ordination and installation, with whom councils appointed by the different Quarterly Meetings to ordain men to the ministry, or to install men as pastors, may consult, and who shall assist in deciding the question of ordaining and installing, or refusing ordination and installation. (*N. B.*—The licensing of men may properly be left to the Quarterly Meetings as in the past, with the recommendation that the candidates be carefully re-examined.)

3. *Resolved*, That, so far as possible, young men who think of entering upon the ministry are urgently advised to pursue a regular and thorough course of study in some of our institutions of learning.

4. *Resolved*, That the Executive Committee of the Conference is instructed to arrange a special course of study for the use of those who have not pursued such a regular course.

5. *Resolved*, That ordaining councils are urgently advised to insist, so far as practicable, that all candidates for ordination shall give a satisfactory evidence of having completed this course or its equivalent before proceeding to ordain them.

6. *Resolved*, That in reference to supplying destitute fields of labor we recommend that so far as practicable the

Yearly Meetings and Associations employ general agents who shall look after the destitute churches, new interests, and the general welfare of the work.

7. A resolution in regard to the use of tobacco was referred to the committee on Temperance.

8. A resolution in regard to the aid of needy ministers was referred to the Executive Committee of the Conference.

9. *Whereas*, Our churches, particularly in the West, and our benevolent enterprises are crippled by lack of funds; and

Whereas, This arises not from poverty among the people, nor unwillingness to give their money, but from lack of training in systematic and generous giving; therefore be it

Resolved, That this General Conference recommend that the ministers give especial attention to the training of the churches and particularly the children and young people. Furthermore, that, as far as practicable, the card system be adopted with this provision, that cards be furnished addressed to *each* member of the family from oldest to youngest, thereby securing an immediate gain of funds, and what is of still greater importance, the training of the younger generation in habits of regular and constant giving.

F. K. CHASE, *Chairman*.

On Correspondence.

47. The report of the committee on Correspondence is as follows: —

The report of your committee on Correspondence is brief. No matters claiming the attention of Conference have been placed in our hands. No messengers have been received during this session from other religious bodies, and so far as we have means of ascertaining, none of our own messengers appointed three years ago have attended to the work assigned to them. Nevertheless, there are certain religious bodies, of kindred faith to our own, with whom it seems to us impor-

tant that fraternal correspondence should be maintained. We therefore make the following recommendations: —

1. *Resolved*, That Rev. John Malvern of Rhode Island be appointed to bear the fraternal greetings of this body to the General Baptists of England, and that Rev. C. A. Hilton of Massachusetts be his alternate.

2. *Resolved*, That Rev. T. H. Stacy of Maine be appointed to visit the Free Baptists of Nova Scotia, and that Rev. A. L. Gerrish be his alternate.

3. *Resolved*, That Rev. J. W. Parsons of Rhode Island be appointed to visit the Free Christian Baptists of New Brunswick, and that Rev. C. E. Mason be his alternate.

We further recommend that the matter of correspondence with the liberal Baptists of the South be referred to the Conference Board of Directors.

O. D. PATCH, *Chairman*.

On Requests.

48. The committee, through its chairman, Rev. B. F. Zell, reported in favor of holding the next General Conference in Lowell, Mass., and the report was adopted.

On Publications.

49. Following is the report: —

Your committee on Publications ask leave to report as follows: From the report of the Secretary of the Board of Corporators [of the Printing Establishment], it appears that since the last Conference there has been more or less gain in all the departments of its work. The gains in the Sunday-school department are especially gratifying. The gains on *Star* subscription list are less, we are sure, than the Establishment and its friends had hoped. The losses by discon-

tinuance have been unusually large. Manifestly these things demand special attention by the Corporators. It appears also that within the same time there has been depreciation in the net earnings of the Establishment of some $7,565. The extra costs of removal are doubtless still felt, and the more cautious methods of taking the inventory must likewise be taken into consideration. But we submit whether the advantages of removal ought not, by this time, to have produced larger results, and we beg leave to advise a thorough investigation by the Corporators, into the causes of this tardy growth, and into the conditions requisite to permanent success.

We are pleased to note and commend the example of a worthy Free Baptist in appropriating his wealth to the Establishment, reserving only an annuity for a time. By this kind of investment he secures what God has given to him of material good, to the denomination and the cause of Christ.

Touching the measures suggested by the Editor of the *Morning Star* for increasing the circulation of our chief papers and other literature, we recommend concentrated and persistent effort by all our people to make our publications of the very best quality, and largely increased zeal in introducing them into the families of our churches and congregations, molding the minds and promoting the interests of our people, older and younger alike. We urge that the success of the *Star* and *Free Baptist* bears such vital relation to denominational growth and vigor that our pastors and churches should make special effort in their behalf by sending out agents, one or more in every church, making a thorough canvass for subscriptions.

Touching the "Free Baptist Cyclopædia," this Conference is deeply indebted to Rev's J. T. Ward and G. A. Burgess for the result of their painstaking and efficient service, which has given to our denomination this valuable book, of which our people may well be proud, and which ought to

have a place in every family of our congregations. We most heartily approve the work and commend it to all.

We recommend that the usages of the denomination, as now determined, be published at the earliest period possible, and that they be distributed to the utmost. We recommend the publication of such tracts as shall be best calculated to commend the doctrines and usages of the denomination to our people and others — these for liberal and gratuitous circulation. We concur in the suggestion that letters from Yearly Meetings and Associations ought to contain more facts of interest, and ought to be as uniform as possible, and recommend the publication of suitable blanks for the secretaries of such bodies.

In answer to inquiry, it is the opinion of your committee that local papers do effect to embarrass, somewhat, subscription to the *Morning Star* and the *Free Baptist*, and that any such enterprises ought not to be undertaken without the approval of the General Conference Board.

Touching the reduction asked for in the price of the *Morning Star* and Sunday-school papers, your committee cannot advise, but are confident that the Establishment will reduce the prices as soon as by increased patronage it can safely be done.

Your committee recommend the publication of another edition of "Butler's Theology," in such style and on such terms as will tend towards giving it the largest circulation. We also report favorably on the matter of publishing a second volume of "Free Baptist History." Upon other matters concerning the publication of books, your committee were not prepared to act intelligently.

O. E. BAKER, *Chairman.*

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS.

50. Prof. B. F. Hayes, D. D., in behalf of a

committee of which he was chairman, reported a series of resolutions adopted by a convention of persons not members of the Conference, but Free Baptists in attendance upon the meetings; and on motion of Rev. C. B. Mills the resolutions were received and ordered recorded and printed in the MINUTES. They are as follows: —

Resolved, That we, the visitors at the twenty-seventh session of the General Conference, desire to express to the delegates composing the Conference our high satisfaction with the action that has been taken in providing that the General Conference shall be an incorporated body.

Resolved, That while we recognize the two names, Free Baptists and Freewill Baptists, as having the same meaning as names of our denomination, we most cordially approve of the selection of the briefer, more comprehensive, and more widely prevalent of the two to be inserted in the instrument of legal incorporation.

Resolved, That we rejoice in the provision now made for a continuous and evangelizing activity of the General Conference, and that inasmuch as the provision of our constitution and usages that the relation between the General Conference and the Yearly Meetings shall be the same as the relation between the Quarterly Meetings and churches; and this can be possible only when the life of the Yearly Meetings is as continuous as that of the churches; therefore we rejoice in the hope that this action of the Conference will lead to similar action in our Quarterly and Yearly Meetings, thus making the life and executive activity of the denomination as a whole as continuous as that of the individual churches.

Resolved, That in our opinion the hour is ripe for this radical improvement in our denominational polity in the direction of greater unity and executive activity, and that

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great loss and discouragement will be avoided by promptly and completely putting into effect the several improvements that are now possible through a carefully selected executive committee.

Resolved, That we believe the churches generally are *anxious* to have the General Conference exercise a much larger degree of guiding and executive action than it ever has done, and that the measure of our future growth depends very largely upon the actions of the Conference at this session, and upon its providing for a continuous life of the Conference through an executive board that shall be competent to take cognizance between sessions of all matters that would be acted on by the Conference if in session.

Resolved, That we express the earnest hope that this Conference will authorize and instruct its Executive Board to carry out the oft-repeated votes of preceding Conferences in favor (1) of a bureau or a secretary who shall be in constant touch with all the Yearly Meetings as a means of aiding churches in securing unobjectionable pastors, and pastors in changing locations; (2) in aid of a course of theological study to be prosecuted by pastors at home.

Resolved, That we also express our hope that no time will be lost in making it possible that the churches through the Executive Board of the Conference may assume the entire management of their benevolent work.

A NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION.

51. The following resolution, offered by Rev. Lewis Malvern of New Hampshire, was adopted without discussion: —

Resolved, That this General Conference looks with favor upon the proposition made by the New England brethren to form a New England Association.

52. The Chair appointed as a committee of conference with General Baptists and southern Free Baptists brethren Ball, Patch, and H. M. Ford.

53. It was voted that the Conference Board be continued until the incorporation of Conference is completed.

CLOSING RESOLUTIONS.

54. The committee reported as follows: —

1. *Resolved*, That we shall remember with gratitude the ample hospitality shown us both by the officers and people connected with Storer College, and also by the good citizens of Harper's Ferry.

2. *Resolved*, That we recognize the eminent tact and Christian courtesy of our presiding officer, and hereby express to him our hearty thanks for the fair and impartial manner in which he has presided over this body.

3. *Resolved*, That we gratefully acknowledge the pains taken by the Conference Board in making the many preparations for this Conference that devolved upon them.

4. *Resolved*, That we tender our thanks for the special favors shown us by railroad officials.

5. *Resolved*, That we pledge to each other that as we go from this place to our homes we will do our utmost to commend to the people at large, not only the glorious doctrines of the Gospel, but also our special work in the Gospel field; and we will use our best endeavors to unite our people in heart and hand, and will urge them to concentrate their powers upon the accomplishment of the grand objects we have in view as a denomination.

F. L. HAYES, *Chairman*.

55. Prayer was offered by Rev. A. F. Hutchins of Maine, and Conference adjourned *sine die*.

GEORGE F. MOSHER, *Clerk*.

REMARKS.

Great interest centered in the fact that the Conference was held in the very town where John Brown began the great rebellion. In this connection the anti-slavery record of the denomination was recalled with satisfaction, and pertinent remarks were made at one of the sessions by members of the Conference who were either sla. s or whose parents were slaves when the memorable action was taken at Conneaut in 1839. Rev. H. Whitcher, a member of that far-away Conference, was present at Harper's Ferry, and so were many ex-soldiers who fought and bivouacked there during the war.

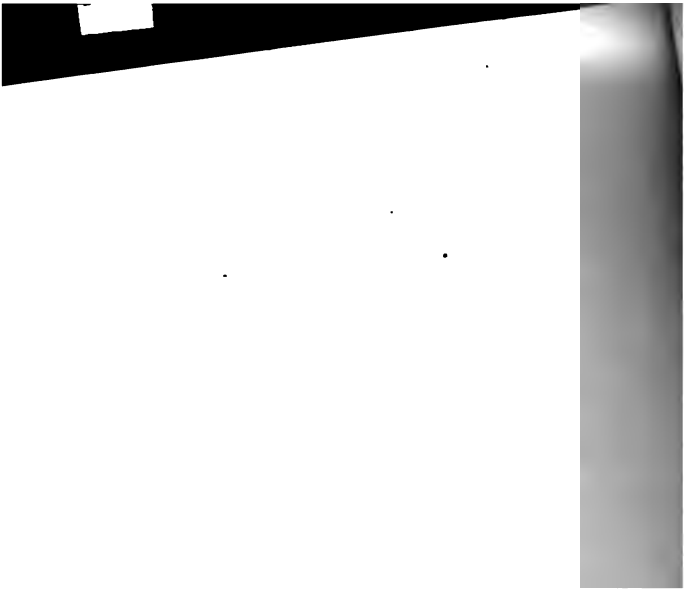
Women first appeared as delegates in this Conference.

It is estimated that five hundred persons received entertainment at the hands of Storer College and its friends in the vicinity.

Excursions were made, as opportunity offered, to the Luray Caverns, the battle-fields of Antietam and Gettysburg, to Charlestown, and to the picturesque heights overlooking the Potomac and the Shenandoah.

Through the efforts of Rev. H. F. Wood nearly six hundred volumes of desirable books were added to the library of Storer College during the Conference.

At this session Conference finally achieved the thing that has been so long desired — its incorporation under the name, The General Conference of Free Baptists.



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TWENTY-EIGHTH

GENERAL CONFERENCE

OF

FREE BAPTISTS

189

MINUTES

OF THE

Twenty-Eighth

ENERAL CONFERENCE

OF

FREE BAPTISTS,

HELD AT

LOWELL, MASS., OCTOBER 5-11, 1892.

BOSTON, MASS:
The Morning Star Publishing House.
1893.

Statistical Table of the Twenty-Eighth General Conference, 1892.‡

Yearly Meetings and Associations.	Delegates.	Number of Q. M's.	Number of Churches.	Number of Ministers.*	Number of Members.	Increase.	Decrease.
Bengal & Orissa		2	10	29	788	192	
Conn. & W. R.	Mrs. L. Fenner	1	9	9	363		253
Cumberland, Tenn. †							
Denton Creek, Texas		1	4	4	143	143	
Genesee, N. Y.	G. R. Holt	3	21	21	1,292	46	
Golden Gate		1	2	4	179	179	
Holland Purchase, N. Y.	Z. A. Space, Mrs. A. C. McKoon, S. Aldrich	5	32	44	2,273		327
Illinois	C. R. Calkins	5	17	12	320		376
Illinois Central	M. A. Shepard, J. L. Meads, G. A. Gordon	5	61	66	19,843	16,999	
Illinois Southern	N. Ricks, J. S. Manning	5	53	80	2,650	395	
Indiana	T. J. Mawhorter	5	25	23	1,398		
Iowa	D. D. Mitchell, Mrs. Thera B. True	7	41	29	1,869	89	
John Wheeler		2	12	14	543		
Kansas Northern	Mrs. N. L. Abbey	4	13	17	432	32	
Kansas Southern		2	8	12	311		4
Kentucky	Z. Harrison, J. S. Manning	3	31	37	1,291		9
Louisiana		4	36	70	803	252	
Massachusetts	Thomas Spooner, Mrs. Annie R. Emery, E. P. Moulton	1	14	22	2,971	119	
Maine	E. D. Wade, B. C. Jordan, J. C. Smith, H. J. Preble, R. Deering, Mrs. M. R. Wade, M. Summerbell, J. A. Howe, N. S. Purinton, O. B. Cheney, E. E. Davis, H. Knowlton, L. M. Webb, Mrs. Cheney.	17	254	195	14,234		225
Mt. Moriah, Ala.		1	11	6	697		
Michigan	R. Dunn, J. D. McColl, F. R. Randall, Mrs. J. M. West, J. H. Maynard, H. M. Ford.	17	126	108	5,550	515	
Minnesota	G. A. Burgess, J. J. Hull	5	34	48	1,596	75	
Mississippi	G. H. Jones, J. M. Coleman	4	28	48	1,350		107
Nebraska	J. S. Dinsmore	5	22	18	724	124	
Nebraska Northern		3	17	12	240		

New Hampshire	Solomon Cole, A. J. Eastman, Mrs. Attie W. Phillips, J. W. Scribner, Mrs. M. G. Osgood, L. Dexter, Miss L. A. DeMeritte, G. L. White, M. P. Tobey.	8	100	102	8,215	8		
New York Central	A. F. Bryant, A. E. Wilson, E. Newell	5	29	29	1,932			281
New York & Penn.	W. S. Smith	5	31	33	1,291	101		
Northern Texas		2	10	19	425			
North Missouri		1	8	12	347			
Northwest Missouri		2	6	5	123	80		
Ohio	J. H. Baldwin	2	11	8	772	35		
Ohio Central	B. F. Zell, L. F. Sherritt	5	25	19	1,617			
Ohio & Penn.	T. H. Drake, E. A Estey	5	29	35	1,768	168		
Ohio River	J. M. Davis, J. W. Martin, T. E. Peden	7	53	52	2,698			292
Ohio & Kentucky	Stephen Fisher	4	32	28	1,553	433		
Ontario, Can.		1	6	1	215			164
Pennsylvania †								
Q. M's not connected		4	13	30	1,131			
Prosperity		1	8	13	375			
Rhode Island	E. G. Wesley, E. W. Porter, Mrs. S. A. Porter, J. W. Williams	1	27	38	3,641	57		
Southwestern Missouri		4	16	16	623			
South Carolina		2	12	7	610			55
St. Lawrence, N. Y.	B. G. Blaisdell	2	12	6	544			71
Susquehanna, Pa. & N. Y.	A. W. Gates	3	19	19	703			94
Union, N. Y	Chas. S. Pendleton	2	11	14	780			
Union Asso. E. Tenn. †								
Union Baptist Asso., Kan.		1	12	10	295			
Vermont	J. W. Burgin, Chester Dickey, R. W. Churchill	6	49	53	2,445			228
Va. & W. Va	C. C. Wainwright	2	15	19	1,076			6
West Missouri		4	30	37	1,184	543		
Western Pennsylvania	J. Calder	2	13	15	517			
West Va		4	26	18	821			51
Wisconsin	O. H. True, Mrs. Eliza M. Jackson	6	39	27	1,558			112
Total, 53	81	199	1,523	1,583	99,347	20,585	2,655	

* Includes licentiates. † No Report. ‡ The basis of this table is the *Register* of 1892 and the few statistics reported in the Yearly Meeting letters to the General Conference.

COMMITTEES.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Denomination.— Eastman of N. H., Aldrich of N. Y., Moulton of Mass., Baldwin of O., Coleman of Miss.

Doctrine.— Dunn of Mich., Sherrett of O., Wesley of R. I. Bryant of N. Y., Gordon of Ill.

Church Polity.— Mitchell of Iowa, Peden of W. Va., Dinsmore of Neb., Holt of N. Y., Gates of Pa.

Education.— Burgess of Minn., Davis of O., White of N. H., Dickey of Vt,, Space of N. Y., Davis of Me.

Sunday-schools.— Mrs. Porter of R. I., Purinton of Me., Mrs. Osgood of N. H., Dexter of N. H., Ricks of Ill., Blake of N. Y., Smith of Me.

Temperance.— Mrs. Cheney of Me., Mrs. Fenner of R. I., Jones of Miss., Newell of N. Y.

The Country.— McColl of Mich., Preble of Me., Tobey of N. H., Mrs. Jackson of Wis., Wainwright of Va.

The Ministry.— Summerbell of Me., Maynard of Mich., Pendleton of N. Y., Burgin of Vt., Smith of N. Y. and Pa.

Publications.— Drake of O., Spooner of Mass., Porter of R. I., Webb of Me., Mawhorter of Ind.

The New West.— Hull of So. Dakota, Jordan of Me., True of Wis., Mrs. True of Iowa.

Home Missions.— Ford of Mich., Wade of Me., Manning of Ill., Shepard of Ill., Harrison of Ky., Mrs. Abbey of Kansas.

Foreign Missions.— Cheney of Me., Miss DeMeritte of N. H., Martin of O., Calder of Pa., Mrs. Wade of Me.

Correspondence.— Zell of O., Mrs. West of Mich., Meads of Ill., Mrs. Phillips of N. H.

Requests.— Wilson of N. Y., Fisher of O., Deering of Me.

Young People's Work.— Estey of Pa., Lowden of Me., Williams of R. I., Mrs. Emery of Mass., Mrs. McKoon of N. Y., Anthony of Me.

Bible Cause.— Mrs. Phillips of N. H., Smith of Me., Holt of N. Y., Baldwin of O.

Closing Resolutions.— Dexter of N. H., Calkins of Ill., Blake of Vt.

Retained Committees.

*Conference Board.**— Ella H. Andrews, Alfred W. Anthony, M. A. W. Bachelder, George H. Ball, Clarence A. Bickford, Nathan C. Brackett, G. A. Burgess, E. B. Cheney, Ellen Copp, John M. Davis, Rufus Deering, Laura A. DeMeritte, Henry M. Ford, Rivington D. Lord, Lewis Malvern, D. D. Mitchell, George F. Mosher, Orin D. Patch, Clara A. Ricker, Thera B. True, E. A. Wilson.

Historical Committee.— R. Dunn, E. N. Fernald, R. M. Lawrence.

* The Board organized by electing the following officers to serve one year: Pres., Prof. A. W. Anthony; Clerk, Rev. H. M. Ford; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. E. A. Copp; Treasurer, Miss L. A. DeMeritte. Subsequently Mrs. Copp resigned and Rev. C. A. Vincent was appointed Corresponding Secretary; and Miss DeMeritte was designated Assistant Treasurer—assistant to Rev. A. Given, Treasurer of the Conference.

MINUTES.

Wednesday, Oct. 5.

The 28th session of the Freewill Baptist General Conference is called to order in the Paige St. Church, Lowell, Mass., by the standing clerk at 10 o'clock in the forenoon. Pres. O. B. Cheney is chosen temporary chairman. The opening hymn, written for the occasion by Mrs. S. A. Porter of Massachuetts, is sung, and a passage of Scripture is read and prayer offered by Rev. J. D. McColl of Michigan.

A committee on Credentials is appointed, consisting of Mitchell of Iowa, Peden of West Virginia, Mrs. Phillips of New Hampshire, E. A. Wilson of New York, and Mrs. Porter of Massachusetts, to prepare and report the roll of Conference. Their report appears in the tabular statement accompanying the statistics.

The Conference sermon is then preached by Pres. J. M. Davis of Ohio, from 2 Pet. 1: 8.

A series of half-hour devotional services has been arranged by the committee on Program, to be held daily at 11.30 A. M. The service to-day is led by Mrs. Burlingame-Cheney.

The General Secretary, Rev. C. A. Vincent, reads his first annual report.

The report of the Conference Board is presented. Accompanying it are the charter and constitution and

by-laws for the incorporated Conference, accordin instructions given the Board by the preceding Co ence; also the 1st and 2d annual reports of the pres of the Correspondence School of Theology, the r of the treasurer of the fund to aid needy ministers, the report of the committee appointed to consider advisability of Free Baptists participating in an i denominational exhibit at the World's Columbian position in Chicago in 1893. The report lies o table.

A young men's conference is one of the exercises c afternoon, and stirring seven-minute speeches on de inational progress are made by Malvern of New H shire, Hilton of Massachusetts, Burgess of Minne Hull of South Dakota, Anthony of Maine, White of Hampshire, Nason of Vermont, Sanford of New H shire, Ford of Michigan, Williams of Rhode Is Lord of New York, and Vincent of Massachu The addresses are referred to a committee to be pri in pamphlet form.

The evening session is mainly occupied by addr and papers, an address by Dr. Summerbell of Main "The Relation of Free Baptists to Modern Thou and a paper by Moulton of Massachusetts on "Con tration in Denominational Work."

The opening and closing prayers of to-day's ses are made by Sherritt and Drake of Ohio, Peden of Virginia, Dr. Calder of Pennsylvania, and Gordo Illinois.

Thursday, Oct. 6.

The treasurer of the Conference presents his report, which shows a balance on hand of $570.46. The report is referred to an auditing committee, who subsequently declare that they find it correctly cast and properly vouched.

Miss H. Lizzie Haley, A. M., representing the American Christian Convention, is introduced and invited to a seat in the Conference. She subsequently expresses the fraternal greetings of the body which she represents.

A resolution is presented by Dr. Howe of Maine, as follows:

Resolved, That we approve the action of the Conference Board in respect to the act of incorporating the General Conference of Free Baptists and in respect to the organization effected in accordance therewith, as shown in their report presented to this body.

Dr. Ball, speaking upon this resolution, explains the history of the movement for incorporation, and at the close of his remarks the resolution is laid on the table, but is afterwards taken up and adopted.

The Conference effects a permanent organization by the choice of Dr. J. A. Howe on the first formal ballot as chairman; George F. Mosher clerk and treasurer; Pres. G. A. Burgess 1st assistant moderator; Pres. J. M. Davis 2d assistant moderator; G. A. Gordon 1st assistant clerk, and Mrs. M. C. Osgood 2d assistant clerk.

A committee of arrangements is appointed, consisting of Rev. G. N. Howard, E. W. Porter and Mrs. Porter, E. G. Wesley, and B. F. Zell.

by-laws for the incorporated Conference, according to instructions given the Board by the preceding Conference; also the 1st and 2d annual reports of the president of the Correspondence School of Theology, the report of the treasurer of the fund to aid needy ministers, and the report of the committee appointed to consider the advisability of Free Baptists participating in an interdenominational exhibit at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. The report lies on the table.

A young men's conference is one of the exercises of the afternoon, and stirring seven-minute speeches on denominational progress are made by Malvern of New Hampshire, Hilton of Massachusetts, Burgess of Minnesota, Hull of South Dakota, Anthony of Maine, White of New Hampshire, Nason of Vermont, Sanford of New Hampshire, Ford of Michigan, Williams of Rhode Island, Lord of New York, and Vincent of Massachusetts. The addresses are referred to a committee to be printed in pamphlet form.

The evening session is mainly occupied by addresses and papers, an address by Dr. Summerbell of Maine on "The Relation of Free Baptists to Modern Thought," and a paper by Moulton of Massachusetts on "Concentration in Denominational Work."

The opening and closing prayers of to-day's sessions are made by Sherritt and Drake of Ohio, Peden of West Virginia, Dr. Calder of Pennsylvania, and Gordon of Illinois.

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A committee of arrangements is appointed, consisting of Rev. G. N. Howard, E. W. Porter and Mrs. Porter, E. G. Wesley, and B. F. Zell.

Papers are read during the evening by Mrs. Ellen A. Copp of Michigan on "The Old Cairo Mission," by Miss Celeste Brackett of Massachusetts (paper prepared by Miss Mary Brackett of W. Virginia) on "Southern Education," by Rev J. S. Manning of Michigan (paper prepared by Rev. Z. Harrison of Kentucky) on "The Colored People," and by N. C. Bruce of Virginia on "The Rights of the Colored Man in the South." The papers are all referred to the committee on Home Missions.

The half-hour devotional exercise to-day is conducted by Rev. T. H. Stacy of Maine, and opening and closing prayers are made by Scribner, Lothrop, and Durgin of New Hampshire and Howe of Maine.

Friday, Oct. 7.

The Conference holds but a brief session to-day, the delegates participating most of the day in the proceedings of the chartered body.

The standing committees are announced as given on a preceding page; Rev. T. H. Stacy of Maine reports as messenger to the Free Baptists of Nova Scotia, Rev. E. Crowell delivers the fraternal greetings of the Nova Scotia Free Baptists, and Rev. Alexander Blackburn of Massachusetts brings the cordial greetings of the larger Baptist body.

H. J. Preble of Maine offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That this General Conference of the Freewill Baptists Connection of North America do hereby transfer to the General Conference of Free Baptists all rights and privileges in receiving

delegates, hearing reports, and transacting business in which funds and financial obligations are not involved.

The resolution is tabled.

The devotional service is led by Rev. Mrs. Fenner of Rhode Island.

In the evening a paper is read by Mrs. J. M. West of Michigan on "Work among the Young"; and addresses are made by Rev. J. J. Hull of South Dakota, Mrs. F. S. Mosher of Michigan, and B. F. Zell of Ohio, on phases of Sunday-school work—all of which are referred to the committee on Sunday-schools.

Saturday, Oct. 8.

At to-day's session the Conference votes its approval of the action of the Conference Board in directing the treasurer to pay the traveling fares of corporators to a meeting at Ocean Park, Maine, to organize under the charter, provided they are not delegates to the Conference; and also the payment of certain expenses, amounting to $21.50, incurred by Pres. Cheney in procuring reduced traveling rates to Conference and in procuring the charter.

J. W. Williams of Rhode Island offers the following resolution:

Resolved, That the treasurer of the General Conference of the Freewill Baptist Connection in North America be and hereby is authorized to transfer, deliver, set over, and assign to the treasurer of the General Conference of Free Baptists, a corporation duly created in the State of Maine, all property of every name, kind, and nature held by said treasurer for and in behalf of said General Conference of the Freewill Baptist Connection in North America.

After discussion the resolution is tabled.

A committee consisting of Ford of Michigan, Gordon of Illinois, and Mitchell of Iowa is appointed to prepare the Yearly Meeting letters to be read to the Conference.

In the evening a paper is read by Rev. O. D. Patch of Ohio, on "Home Mission Organization," and it is referred to the committee on Home Missions. Mrs. Frances S. Mosher of Michigan reads a paper on "University Extension," and it is referred to the committee on Education. George F. Mosher addresses the Conference on "Our Educational Policy."

The half-hour devotional service at 11.30 was led by Rev. A. W. Anthony of Maine.

Sunday, Oct. 9.

The pulpits in the city were occupied by different ministers who were attending the Conference. In the afternoon the customary communion and memorial service was held, and it was conducted by Rev's N. W. Bixby of Iowa, J. S. Manning of Michigan, and E. W. Porter of Massachusetts, assisted by Deacons S. W. Anthony of Rhode Island, E. D. Wade and R. Deering of Maine, and the three senior deacons of the Paige St. Church.

The collections at the afternoon and evening services in the Paige St. church, amounting to $34.36, were given to the fund to aid needy ministers.

Dr. Dunn read the report of the committee on Necrology, which will be found among the reports at the end of these Minutes.

Monday, Oct. 10.

A resolution offered by Newell of New York, to the effect that the Conference Board of the chartered body be the Conference Board of this body for the next three years, is adopted.

A resolution offered by Spooner of Massachusetts, recommending the Foreign Mission Board to invite the eldership of the Church of God to unite with us in missionary work in India, is referred to the committee on Foreign Missions.

The treasurer of the fund to aid needy ministers reports showing that since November, 1890, when the fund was instituted, $573.92 has been received by voluntary contributions, all but $49.22 of which has been distributed by a committee to needy ministers or their widows. The report is referred to the committee on the Ministry.

A. W. Anthony of Maine offers the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the committee on the Ministry be instructed to nominate a standing committee of three, to be known as the Ministerial Record Committee, whose duties shall be to report at the next session of General Conference all deaths occurring in our ministry, together with last place of residence, date, age, and term of service in the ministry, and also to report the accessions to our ministry, including

a. Accessions by entrance from other denominations, stating the denomination from which the candidate comes, date of recognition in our body, length of service, and pastorates hitherto held.

b. Accessions by ordination, giving date of ordination and the authority under which the ordaining council acted; and concerning the candidate, his age, preparation in studies, and experience in Christian work.

2. That this Ministerial Record Committee be and hereby is instructed to report the number of Yearly Meetings, Associations, and Quarterly Meetings having organized ministers' conferences, the degree of discipline and brotherly oversight maintained by such organizations, and the general state of our ministry as pertains to efficiency and reputation.

3. That the expenses of subscription to denominational papers necessary in collecting these items, and of postage and stationery necessarily involved in correspondence, be allowed by this Conference.

The resolutions are adopted.

The report of the Correspondence School of Theology is taken from the table and referred to the committee on Education, and the report of the committee on participating in a religious exhibit at the World's Columbian Exposition is referred to the Conference Board.*

A resolution offered by Rev. J. S. Manning of Michigan, to provide educational privileges for the colored people in the old Cairo Mission, is referred to the committee on Home Missions.

The report of the committee on Church Polity is received and adopted.

Rev. G. A. Burgess of Minnesota offers the following resolution:

Resolved, That four days be designated by the Conference Board in which, so far as practicable, the four objects of benevolence—Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Education, and State Work—shall be presented in all our churches, and collections be taken or provisions be made for the systematic offerings of the year in each of these departments.

* The Board has decided to enter into the World's Fair only by having speaker at the Congress of Religions.

The resolution is adopted.*

The auditing of the report of the treasurer of the fund to aid needy ministers is referred to the committee on the Denomination.

Rev. J. D. McColl of Michigan offers a resolution to instruct the Conference Board to provide for distributing information as to the condition and needs of our benevolent work; and it is adopted.

A resolution offered by Newell of New York, as to the relation of baptism by immersion to church-membership, is referred to the committee on Doctrine.

A resolution by Moulton of Massachusetts, to specify amounts that should be raised yearly for benevolence, is referred to the committee on Denomination.

A resolution offered by Porter of Masschusetts, providing for the recognition of all the societies of young people in our churches, is referred to the committee on Young People.

At the opening of the afternoon session brief and pertinent addresses are made by Burgess of Minnesota, Mitchell of Iowa, Drake of Ohio, Ford of Michigan, and Deering of Maine on State Agency work.

The committee on the New West reports, and the report is adopted.

The committee on Requests reports that invitations for the next Conference have come from Ocean Park Association, Me., and from Winnebago, Minn., and asks the reference of the question to the Conference

* The four days subsequently designated are as follows: Foreign Mission day, the third Sunday in December; Home Mission day, the third Sunday in March; State Mission day, the third Sunday in June; Education day, the third Sunday in September.

Board; but the Conference itself settles the matter by voting 36 to 22 to go to Winnebago.

The committee on the Ministry reports, and its report is discussed and then adopted without change.

The committees on Foreign Missions and Sunday-schools report, and their reports are adopted.

The 1st assistant moderator presides at the evening session, and papers are read by Mrs. Thera B. True of Iowa on "Our Young People in the Local Church" and by Mr. F. A. Young of New Hampshire on "Young People and the Press."

The committee on Young People presents its report, and the report is adopted. The following resolution is also adopted:

Resolved, That we recognize our young people's societies of whatever name or standing on equal footing before this Conference and the denomination.

This is a working day. The devotional service at 11.30 was led by Rev. J. D. McColl of Michigan, and opening and closing prayers were made by A. W. Gates of Pennsylvania, J. A. Howe of Maine, J. W. Scribner of New Hampshire, and T. E. Peden of West Virginia.

Tuesday, Oct. 11.

The secretary of the General Theological Library of Boston is introduced and explains the character and work of that institution.

Rev. Hugh Montgomery brings the greetings of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Rev. George Batchelor of the National Unitarian Council.

The committee on Education reports, and after slight amendment the report is adopted.

A resolution offered by Porter of Massachusetts is adopted, as follows:

Resolved, That we hereby express and desire to place on record our appreciation of the valuable aid, during the deliberations of this Conference at this crisis in our history, of our delegates who represent the legal profession; viz., H. Knowlton and L. M. Webb of Maine, J. W. Williams of Rhode Island, and H. J. Preble of Maine. In the many technical points necessarily considered their assistance has been of great moment.

The committee on Home Missions reports, and the report is adopted. This report calls out some loyal remarks by J. S. Manning of Michigan, Dr. Summerbell of Maine, M. A. Shepard of Illinois, and G. H. Jones of Arkansas, in behalf of the Cairo Mission.

Resolutions offered by J. W. Williams of Rhode Island, and referred to the committee on the Denomination, are reported back with their approval and unanimously adopted, as follows:

1. *Resolved*, That, whenever the clerk of the General Conference of Free Baptists shall certify to the treasurer of this Conference that Yearly Meetings and Associations representing three-fourths of the membership of this denomination have approved of the organization and incorporation of the General Conference of Free Baptists, then the treasurer of this Conference be and hereby is directed and authorized to give, transfer, deliver, set over, and assign to the treasurer of the General Conference of Free Baptists, a corporation duly created in the State of Maine, all property of every name, kind, and nature held by said treasurer for and in behalf of said General Conference of the Freewill Baptists' Connection in North America, to be held by said treasurer of the General Conference of Free Baptists under the same conditions, powers, and privileges as held by the treasurer of this Conference.

2. *Resolved*, That, whenever the clerk of the General Conference of Free Baptists shall certify to the treasurer of this Conference that Yearly Meetings and Associations representing three-fourths of the membership of this denomination have approved of the organization and incorporation of the General Conference of Free Baptists, then the treasurer of this Conference be and hereby is directed to transfer the Aged and Needy Ministers' Fund (so called) now held by him to the Conference Board of the General Conference of Free Baptists, to be held by it for the same purpose as now held by the treasurer of this Conference.

Rev's J. D. McColl of Michigan, C. S. Pendleton of New York, and J. Nason of Vermont are appointed a committee on Ministerial Record, as provided in the resolutions offered by A. W. Anthony of Maine.

The letters from the Yearly Meetings are read and referred to the clerk to be filed. In the absence of a letter from the Maine Association Delegate Wade reports that State orally. Rev. Mrs. Fenner reports the Connecticut and Western Rhode Island Association in the same way.

Pres. Cheney exhibits the watch which was once owned by Elder Benj. Randall.

The West Texas Association is admitted to the Conference, and the request for aid contained in its letter is referred to the Conference Board.

The reports of the committees on The Country, on Doctrine, on Temperance, on Publications, on Correspondence, on Bible Cause, are received and adopted.

Rev. J. H. Baldwin of Ohio presents the following resolution, and it is adopted:

Whereas, we recognize the great importance of our young people's work in building up and sustaining the best interests of

our beloved denomination, and appreciating the great benefit to the present session of General Conference of the Young Men's Congress; therefore,

Resolved, That a definite time be set apart in the next General Conference for a like exercise, and the young people be encouraged to take part therein. And that the committee on Program for the next General Conference be instructed to make their arrangements accordingly.

Certain bills for printing, aggregating $28, are ordered paid by the treasurer; and in this connection the following resolution is presented and adopted:

Resolved, That this Conference hereby assumes, and directs its treasurer to pay, the expenses of its Conference Board whether acting in its behalf or in that of the General Conference of Free Baptists.

Rev. E. P. Moulton of Massachusetts offers the following resolution, and it is adopted:

Resolved, That this Conference through its Conference Board call upon the churches to raise the following amounts for the mission and education societies, to be divided according to the card system and to include the Woman's Society— namely, for the year begining September, 1893, $50,000; for the year 1894, $75,000; and for the year 1895, $100,000; and that these sums be apportioned at the discretion of the Conference Board on the basis of resident membership, the statement of the portion belonging to each Yearly Meeting or Association be sent to the officers of such bodies with the recommendation that they take measures to have each church notified of the amount required of it as soon as practicable.*

The devotional service to-day is led by Rev. E. Newell of New York, and prayers are offered by Rev's J. S. Dinsmore of Nebraska, C. D. Pendleton of New York, and H. C. Lowden of Maine.

* At the time of going to press with these Minutes the Conference Board has apportioned the sum of $50,000 to the Yearly Meetings and Associations, of which announcements will be seasonably made.

The closing hour is at hand. The committee on Closing Resolutions reports as follows:

Resolved, 1. That we recognize with profound gratitude the blessing and presence of God in directing our deliberations and enabling us harmoniously to organize as a chartered body with new constitution and by-laws.

2. That we tender thanks to President Cheney and others for their efficient services in drafting and procuring a charter and preparing a constitution and by-laws for this body.

3. That we hold in grateful remembrance the people who have entertained us with such generous hospitality, especially the Paige Street Church and its pastor, invoking God's blessing upon them.

4. That we appreciate the dignity, ability, and impartiality with which the president has performed the duties of his office, and also the faithful services of other officers of this Conference.

5. That we tender grateful acknowledgments to the Central Methodist and John Street Congregational churches for the use of their vestries for committee meetings.

6. That we extend thanks to the railroad officials granting reduction in fares and to the brethren procuring the same.

7. That we appreciate the services of the press in the careful reports of our proceedings.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

LEWIS DEXTER,
C. R. CALKINS,
H. A. BLAKE.

This report is adopted, the hymn "God be with you till we meet again" is sung, prayer is offered by Rev. J. S. Manning of Michigan, and on motion of Rev. A. J. Eastman of New Hampshire the Conference adjourns without date.

GEORGE F. MOSHER, *Clerk*.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

The reports of the standing committees as adopted are as follows:

The Denomination.

While we may not be able to report any material numerical denominational increase, yet we are pleased to note a general strengthening of our forces along the lines of church extension, young people's movement, better publications, assembly, woman's and State work, our missionary operations, and more permanent and better organizations.

The committee hereby certify that they have examined the accounts, applications, and the vouchers of the treasurer of the Aged and Needy Ministers' Relief Fund, and find them correct.

Resolved, That this Conference recommend that the General Conference Board call for contributions from the churches to an amount equaling $40,000 for Foreign Missions, $40,000 for Home Missions, $20,000 for Education; and that this amount be apportioned among Yearly Meetings and Associations according to the resident membership, and that it be a part of the work of the General Secretary to encourage the churches in raising the same.

Recognizing the importance to Free Baptists that our denomination be well represented at the denominational exhibit at the World's Fair to be held at Chicago, we recommend that the whole matter be referred to the Conference Board to be chosen with power.

A. J. EASTMAN, *Chairman.*

Doctrine.

Your committee appointed to consider questions of doctrine would respectfully report that nothing has been referred to them except a reported disposition of laxity as to the importance of

baptism among some of our people, extending in some instances to neglecting this ordinance altogether; therefore,

Resolved, That this Conference express its entire disapproval of such practice as being antagonistic to one of the fundamental doctrines of the New Testament.

G. A. GORDON, *Chairman.*

Church Polity.

We would respectfully submit the following report:

1. That our denominational polity is the best of any denomination with which we are acquainted, and requires no change.

2. We would earnestly urge the ministry to teach and practise it faithfully.

D. D. MITCHELL, *Chairman.*

Home Missions.

1. Your Home Mission committee feels that this Conference has profound reason for gratitude to God for his help in the past and for the encouragement he has given us for the last year in that the Home Mission receipts were $800 in excess of the year before.

2. While your committee regrets that the union of the societies in the new organization was not consummated at this session we recommend that this work be pushed forward by the officers and agents of the Home Mission Society until consolidation take place in the near future.

3. We recommend the importance of State agency and missionary work. We also heartily approve the supporting of a general agent in the field.

4. We recommend a better system of collecting money and urge upon the churches thorough work by the card system, and especially do we urge upon our ministers that they thoroughly acquaint themselves with our benevolent plans and see to it that these plans are carried out.

5. To this end the committee recommends that a circular or a hand-book be published for the benefit of the pastor, setting forth his duties in these particulars.

6. We recommend that churches dismissing their members recommend them to the churches where they go, and notify the pastor of said churches.

7. Deeming the present the most important time in the history of Free Baptists the committee recommends that wherever feasible we organize in such cities as St. Louis, Chicago, Denver, and after the manner of the great missionary apostle strike for the centers of population.

8. The committee extends sympathy to the brethren along the western frontier, in Kansas, Nebraska, and Dakota; and would assure them that help is on the way, and bids them stand firm and be patient, for better times are coming.

9. We recommend the appointment of Rev. G. H. Jones for work among the Freedmen, and would recommend such assistance as the Home Mission Board can give.

10. The committee recommends that the Board take into consideration the resolution offered in Conference and referred to the Home Mission committee respecting the want of educational privileges to the ministers of Cairo Mission, and would request the Board to take such measures to relieve this want as it may deem expedient.

11. We recommend that $40,000 be raised this year for Home Mission purposes, including the "200 Links," which we indorse and recommend to pass through the regular channel.

H. M. FORD, *Chairman.*

Foreign Missions.

The Foreign Mission committee have attended to their duty, and ask leave to report the following resolutions for the consideration of the Conference:

1. That the Foreign Mission Board be requested to extend a cordial invitation to the General Eldership of the Church of God to unite with us in mission work in India in such a manner as may be satisfactory to both bodies.

2. That we regard the children's department of the Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society as an important educational work, and we bespeak for it a more extensive indorsement by our churches through our children's bands and our Sunday-schools.

3. That forty thousand dollars a year for three years be named as a basis for our Foreign Mission work, the same to be raised by our Foreign Mission Society, our Woman's Missionary Society, our young people's societies, and our children's societies.*

For the committee,

O. B. CHENEY, *Chairman.*

Education.

1. We recommend that no person should be ordained to the ministry until after one year's preaching under a license.

2. That the Conference Board through a special committee† or otherwise shall designate what shall constitute educational fitness for ordination and publish the same in the denominational papers, and we would especially urge ordaining councils to be governed thereby.

3. That the Correspondence School, under the direction of the General Conference, be recommended to those whose duties prevent attendance for special study at our educational institutions.

4. We approve the plan and usefulness of the Free Baptist Correspondence School, and recommend the Conference Board to assist the Correspondence School in devising plans, providing pecuniary aid, remunerating the president of the school for his services.

5. We approve the report of the Correspondence School and recommend its adoption.

* After the adoption of this report this third item was superseded by the adoption of a resolution offered by E. P. Moulton of Massachusetts to raise $50,000, $75,000, and $100,000 respectiveiy for the first, second and third years following the session of Conference.—G. F. MOSHER, *Clerk.*

† The Conference Board, to whom the appointment of this committee was referred, designated the faculty of the Free Baptist Pastors' Correspondence School as the committee, viz.: Rev. M. Summerbell, D. D., Rev. B. F. Hayes, D. D., Rev. A. T. Salley, Rev. A. W. Anthony, Rev. J. S. Copp, D. D., Rev. J. A. Howe, D. D., and Rev. D. B. Reed.

6. We recommend the Literary Guild as a promoter of good literature and means of development and intellectual culture for our young people.

G. A. BURGESS, *Chairman.*

Ministry.

Your committee on the Ministry respectfully present the following report:

We recommend as to the application for relief referred to our consideration that the sum of $10.00 be appropriated to Rev. N. W. Bixby.

Concerning the ministry we offer the following:

Resolved, 1. In consideration of the call from churches for ministers, which it is so difficult fully to supply, that the churches are urged to encourage young persons of both sexes who are evidently led of the Holy Spirit to pursue studies with the ministry in view.

Resolved, 2. Where several churches of moderate membership are separately unable to sustain pastors, that they be advised where practicable to unite in a pastorate, thus enabling them to give adequate support to their ministers.

Resolved, 3. In case of weak churches situated near a strong church, that such be advised to place themselves in coöperation with it.

Resolved, 4. In consideration of the increased requirements of the time in respect to ministerial qualifications and the necessity that the minister's library be well stocked with books and current literature, and also in consideration of the compensation paid to ministers in other bodies, that our churches be urged to arrange the salaries of their ministers on a scale that shall not put them at disadvantage with others about them.

Resolved, 5. That the various Yearly Meetings and Associations which have not done so already be advised to establish ministers' conferences which may guard the standing and reputation of the ministry.

Resolved, 6. That the churches in considering candidates for their pulpits give encouragement only to such ministers as are recommended by responsible brethren or have credentials of good standing from some recognized association or ministers' conference.

Resolved, 7. That we reaffirm the recommendation of the last General Conference, that churches should settle and dismiss their pastors under the advice of councils; and that such councils consult with

the standing committee on ordination and license as appointed by the Association and Yearly Meetings.

Resolved, 8. That councils in ordaining and installing ministers, and Quarterly Meetings in licensing persons to preach, before taking action carefully assure themselves from the candidates record not only that he has general qualifications for such advancement, but particularly that he has executive ability and aptness to teach.

Resolved, 9. That the movement for the relief of superannuated ministers be encouraged, and that the churches should regard it as a sacred obligation to provide that the aged ministers who have spent their lives in earnest service should suffer no want in their declining years.

Resolved, 10. That as our aged and esteemed brother, Rev. Silas Curtis, who is now 80 years of age and very feeble, has for so many years faithfully and efficiently served this denomination in its ministerial work and financial interests, we hereby as a Conference extend to him our profound sympathy in his great physical weakness and crave for him unto the end the all-sufficient grace of our Heavenly Father.

Whereas we as a denomination have many more churches, mission stations, and other openings than we have active clergymen, and whereas there is no visible source of supply of male educated clergymen adequate to our needs; therefore,

Resolved, That this General Conference look with favor upon the increasing activity of the laity in all our work, and recommend all our ministers and workers to seek out lay brethren or sisters of ability and character and encourage them to go out and lead meetings, organize Sunday-schools, and do other evangelistic work in our weaker churches and destitute places.

M. SUMMERBELL, *Chairman*.

Publications.

Your committee on Publications beg leave to report as follows:

Resolved, 1. That we hereby urge all our pastors and brethren to press the claims of our denominational papers and other publications, until each Freewill Baptist's home shall be suitably supplied with the same.

2. We recommend that devotional and doctrinal tracts or leaflets of two or three pages be issued so cheaply that the churches and the benevolently disposed can without great expense secure and gratuitously distribute them among the people.

3. We recommend that specimen copies of our publications, especially our Sunday-school supplies, be more liberally distributed among the churches and Sunday-schools of our denomination that do not now use them.

4. That in view of the fact that our organized young people have raised during the past year over $5,000 for denominational work, of which $2,600 was for Foreign Missions, and believing that in this work *Our Dayspring* as the organ of our young people has had much to do, and since the United Society of Advocates of Christian Fidelity have taken steps which it is hoped will prevent any future financial deficiency in its publication, we therefore recommend the continuance of the *Dayspring* at our Publishing House.

T. H. DRAKE, *Chairman.*

Sunday-schools.

Your committee on Sunday-schools would make the following report:

Whereas the normal Bible work opens up such a broad and helpful knowledge of the Word and presents it in such an interesting and instructive way to all ages,

Resolved, 1. That its general adoption in our Sunday-schools be most earnestly recommended and that the Bible students of our homes and churches be urged to avail themselves so far as possible of the benefits of our summer assemblies on this line.

2. That, considering the great necessity of our children and youth being forearmed for the great warfare with King Alcohol, we hereby emphasize most strongly the necessity of the formation in our Sunday-schools of pledged temperance bands or societies.

Whereas we desire our denominational leaders of coming years to be thoroughly alive in the sympathy and support of our benevolent enterprises, and whereas the proper training of our childhood and youth alone will accomplish this; therefore,

Resolved, 3. That we call special attention to the point presented in Mrs. West's valuable paper regarding the organization of our Sunday-schools for systematic missionary work, remembering that her plan embraces all bodies now organized in our churches or schools.

4. That we heartily indorse the action of the Sunday-school Union, regarding the adoption of the plan set forth in the home department of Sunday-school work as presented by Rev. A. L. Garrish.

5. That we regret the necessity of reminding any of our schools of the fitness of securing all Sunday-school supplies of our own Publishing House.

MRS. S. A. PORTER, *Chairman.*

Temperance.

Believing that the liquor drinking habit and the liquor selling business are most serious obstacles to the progress of Christianity, therefore

Resolved, 1. That we again emphatically pronounce ourselves in favor of total abstinence for the individual, as the only consistent Christian position.

2. That, as the saloon cannot be legalized without sin, it follows that all persons giving their influence either directly or indirectly in favor of license share in the sin; we therefore commit ourselves unequivocally in favor of prohibition of the liquor traffic.

3. As the use of the ballot involves great moral responsibility we pledge ourselves to seek divine guidance in its use and to aid in electing to office such men only as represent us in aiding to secure the annihilation of the liquor traffic.

4. That we hereby give our indorsement to the World's Petition of the W. C. T. U. asking the governmental powers of the world to unite in prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors.

5. That in consideration of the alarming extent of the use of cigars and cigarettes by the youth of the nation, and believing the use of tobacco in any form to be injurious to body and soul, and recognizing the great responsibility of professed Christians in giving their influence to its use, we hereby pledge ourselves to use our prayerful efforts against its use by members of our churches.

MRS. E. B. CHENEY, *Chairman.*

The Country.

Attention is called with feelings of justifiable denominational pride to the record of the Freewill Baptist fathers in their protest against human slavery, as establishing a denominational precedent that may be worthily followed in all matters of needed reform.

The following communication has been received from J. M. Coleman and G. H. Jones:

As colored people of the South, appreciating most fully your work in the past in securing our deliverance from slavery, we would now appeal to you that you still stand by us until we have secured to us the privileges of franchise which are nominally accorded but not secured to us by our government.

Whereas, in deference to the petitions and resolutions of the Christian people of this nation praying for the interposition of Congress against the opening of the Columbian Exposition on the Lord's day, the appropriation of said body was conditioned upon the closing of said Exposition on the Christian Sabbath; therefore,

Resolved, That the General Conference of Free Baptists record its profound gratitude to Congress for such action.

Resolved, That we as a Conference of Christian citizens enter our solemn protest against the opening of the Columbian Exposition on the Lord's day, as a very dangerous example for the American people, a great departure from our former practice as a republic, a concession to a growing evil tendency of our times, as well as a clear violation of the law of God and also of the laws of the State of Illinois.

Resolved, That our pastors and churches exercise a more careful supervision of their members and families in reference to the observance of the Sabbath, and insist upon complete abstinence from the desecration of the Lord's day in their homes, business, and personal habits.

Resolved, That we hereby express our profound gratitude to our national government, and especially to the President and Postmaster General, for the prompt and efficient action by them taken in the suppression of the corrupting lottery system that prevailed to such an alarming extent in our country.

Whereas our government has in its action in the passage of the "Chinese Exclusion Bill" violated our compact in international relations, and put obstructions in the way of foreign missionary work with this nation; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That we as a religious denomination declare ourselves opposed both politically and religiously to the enactment of this bill.

2. That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded by the clerk of Conference to the President of the United States.

Resolved, That this body believes in a press that dares speak its convictions or pass its criticism alike on Protestant or Catholic churches, and we are compelled to express our regrets that for any reason this liberty of the secular press seems so generally to be lost.

J. D. McCOLL, *Chairman*.

Young People.

Whereas we recognize with gratitude to God the growth in numbers and usefulness of our young people's societies since the last General Conference, and believing that upon this continued growth much of our future prosperity depends; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That we should push this work until in every church there shall be an active, intelligent young people's society loyal to Christ and loyal to our denomination;

2. That it is our conviction that loyalty to our denomination can be best secured by the establishing and maintenance of young people's societies distinctively denominational in character, and that hence we earnestly affirm the indorsement by the General Conferences of 1889 of the Advocates of Christian Fidelity wherever they are or can be established; but,

3. That we believe that all young people's societies of whatever name now connected with churches in our denomination should be recognized as standing in equal fellowship provided that they have and preserve the qualifications hereinbefore named of loyalty to Christ and loyalty to the denomination, yet we earnestly recommend that all societies that may be hereafter organized in our churches bear the one name of Advocates of Christian Fidelity.

4. That we believe that the full measure of the young people's work in behalf of our denomination can only be obtained by securing union and harmony among the various societies represented in our churches, and that hence we approve all efforts looking toward this end.

5. That we bring to the special attention of all our young people's societies the plan for their union proposed by the United Society of Advocates of Christian Fidelity at its annual session of 1892, by which all societies of Free Baptist young people are eligible to representation by delegates in the United Society, and we recommend to all our young people's societies their indorsement of and cöoperation in this plan.

6. That our hearty thanks as a denomination are due the Printing Establishment for its efforts to provide a publication devoted to the interests of the young people's societies of our denomination and for its maintenance of the same at such pecuniary sacrifice.

7. That we call upon our Printing Establishment not to abandon the publication of the *Dayspring* at this time nor to permit it to pass out of its control; and,

8. That we urgently call upon all the young people's societies of churches connected with our denomination, by whatever name known, to make renewed efforts to increase the circulation of their paper and in every way to secure its substitution for undenominational papers now so freely used by them.

9. That this Conference hereby call upon its standing committee on young people's work to make all endeavors in its power to secure union and harmony among the various young people's societies in our churches, and to so increase the support of the *Dayspring* as to place it upon a paying basis.

10. That we urge upon all our young people's societies renewed zeal and interest in supporting and forwarding the work of our missions both home and foreign, and that we commend to their careful consideration the claims of our Education Society and hereby call upon them to give support to this interest equally with that of our missions.

11. That among our young people's societies that are now A. C. F's the name Fidelity expresses in a marked degree the important relation of the young Christian to the society and to the church of which it is a part, and such a pledge as that contained in our constitution made practical in the daily lives of young Christians, so that it becomes their chief aim in life to please Him in thought, word, and act, means the largest success to us as a people and many precious sheaves garnered to lay at the Master's feet. *In the name of Christ, forward.*

We recommend that hereafter in our United Society each State Association shall have the right to nominate its own vice-president.

E. A. ESTEY, *Chairman.*

Bible Cause.

Asserting our loyalty to the Bible as our only rule of faith and practice, and recognizing the efficiency of the American Bible Society in its work of printing the Scriptures in the English language and the great good accomplished by this and State societies in distributing the same upon the liberal terms always offered; therefore,

Resolved, That we recommend that our pastors and churches coöperate with this society whenever practicable.

MRS. ALLIE W. PHILLIPS, *Chairman.*

The New West.

In view of the fact that the Home Mission Board has indorsed the 200 Links on condition that it acts through the regular constituted channels of the denomination in connection with church extension, therefore

Resolved, 1. That it is the sentiment of General Conference that the 200 Links provides for a much needed and neglected work in view of our Western opportunities and needs.

2. We recommend to our brethren in the ministry that the 200 Links be completed at once and made operative.

J. J. HULL, *Chairman.*

Correspondence.

One of the pleasant features of our former General Conferences has been the reception of representatives from other religious bodies. There has been no departure in this respect. We have received and been addressed by Rev. E. H. Crowell of Nova Scotia, representing the Free Baptists of the Dominion, Miss H. Lizzie Haley of the American Christian Conference, and Rev. Hugh Montgomery of the Anti-Saloon League, Rev. Luther Farnham of the Congregational church, representing the General Theological Library of Boston, and a very kind letter from Rev. Edward E. Hale, chairman of the National Council of the Unitarian church of America, introducing Rev. George Batchelor, and Rev. A. Blackburn, pastor of the 1st Baptist church of the city. Their excellent addresses gave expression to a feeling of sympathy and fellowship.

In order to maintain this friendly relation with our sister denominations we recommend that Rev. R. Dunn, D. D., be our delegate to the Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia, and that Rev. F. W. Sanford be his alternate; also that Mrs. Emeline B. Cheney be our delegate to the American Christian Conference to be held in October, 1894, and Martyn Summerbell to be her alternate; also that Rev. F. L. Hayes represent us before the National Congregational Council.

B. F. ZELL, *Chairman.*

Free Baptist Pastors' Correspondence School.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT.

To the Conference Board.

DEAR BRETHREN: — I have the pleasure to present the following report of the Free Baptist Pastors' Correspondence School for the year ending June 30, 1892.

During the year four new students have been received, and besides these a special class in New Testament work has been organized, with nine new students at the start. One old student, at special request, was transferred to work in this free class. At the present time nine students are engaged in study and are making satisfactory progress.

The faculty has under consideration a proposition which it is hoped may permit our pupils to advance more rapidly in their courses and at the same time preserve the disciplinary features of our system, which have served so admirably when earnestly followed.

The first year our expenditures were in excess of receipts, leaving on June 30, 1891, a deficit of $33.43, although nothing had been paid for instruction or for the general superintendence of the school.

The receipts for the year ending June 30, 1892, have been,

Matriculations	$20.00	
Book Account	41.20	
Tuitions	70.00	
Special Class	9.00	
		$140.20

Disbursements for the same period have been,

Deficit	$33.43	
Books for students	35.66	
Stationery	1.25	
Postage	3.85	
Question papers	24.00	
Instruction		
M. Summerbell	25.00	
Prof. J. S. Copp	8.00	
Prof. A. W. Anthony	9.00	
		$140.19
Balance in treasury June 30, '92		.01

The amounts paid instructors are calculated on the basis of work performed proportionally by each and cover the two years since the school opened. No account has yet been made of labor incurred in the preparation of lesson papers and general superintendence, and it remains for the General Conference to set the compensation

therefor. Aside from this all obligations have been met promptly. It hardly needs to be remarked that for the development of the school a larger number of students is imperative both as regards interest in the work and proper financial support. While receipts are so meager it is difficult to carry out important plans from lack of necessary means. Funds are required at once for printing and other expenses inseparable from an interprise involving so much use of the mails. It is to be hoped that from some source these may be provided.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

MARTYN SUMMERBELL, *President.*

Necrology.

To the 28th General Conference of Freewill Baptists.

Your committee on Necrology would present the following report, and would say that owing to the illness of its chairman, the Rev. Silas Curtis, the work has not been as carefully attended to as in former years, and this report will probably be found incomplete. The committee have obtained the names of 77 ministers who have passed out of the earthly life since the last report was made. The following list contains their names, residences, and ages, so far as we have been able to learn them.

MAINE.

Name.	*Residence.*	*Died.*	*Age.*
R. E. Bradford	Thorndike	July 29, 1889	32
A. E. Boynton	Shapleigh	Sept. 4, 1889	56
J. Williamson	Skowhegan	Aug. 16, 1890	61
D. Lancaster	Carthage	Sept. 16, 1890	72
T. E. Lang	Bridgeton	Dec. 9, 1890	84
L. Brackett	Lewiston	Dec. 29, 1890	79
J. Cook	Burnham	Jan. 4, 1891	82
N. Preble	Waterville	Jan. 6, 1891	71
P. Smith	Saco	Jan. 28, 1891	68
D. Newell	Gorham	Mar. 2, 1891	86
J. B. O. Colby	Denmark	Mar. 29, 1891	83

W. S. Stevenson	Montville	May 2, 1891	70
M. Merrill	Madison	Aug. 17, 1891	84
C. L. Russell	Athens	Oct. 24, 1891	67
R. A. Proctor	Weld	Dec. 2, 1891	58
E. Harding	East Corinth	Feb. 8, 1892	82
A. J. Buker	Bowdoin	Feb. 17, 1892	76
J. Edgecomb	Mt. Vernon	May 12, 1892	89
E. N. Berry	East Livermore	May 20, 1892	55
S. P. Morrill	Farmington Falls	Aug. 4, 1892	76
Isaac Jackson	Harrison	——— 1892	—
J. W. Carr	Skowhegan	Aug. 16, 1890	69
O. L. Gile	Richmond	——— 1892	32

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

D. Waterman	Littleton	Feb. 8, 1890	83
A. Sargent	Wilmot	Mar. 5, 1890	76
S. F. Bean	Melvin	Mar. 6, 1890	83
G. W. Jesseman	Campton	———————	79
J. S. Neal	Strafford	Apr. 8, 1890	49
W. A. Nealley	Bristol	June, 1890	44
D. Batchelder	Ashland	July 24, 1890	72
H. F. Young	Milton	———————	35
F. H. Lyford	No. Woodstock	Aug. 24, 1891	71
D. G. Edgerly	New Durham	Sept. 2, 1891	73
C. E. Blake	New Hampton	Jan. 8, 1892	74
S. Sawyer	Alton	Feb. 4, 1892	85
D. Moody	Sutton	Apr. 7, 1892	87
J. M. Woodman	Woodman	Apr. 14, 1892	70
H. P. Mansur	Wakefield	June 22, 1892	66
A. P. Tracy	Meredith	Sept. 18, 1892	59

VERMONT.

J. Coffrin	Waterbury	Oct. 28, 1891	75

MASSACHUSETTS.

J. Mariner	Lynn	Nov. 8, 1891	67

RHODE ISLAND.

W. Pierce	E. Providence	July 10, 1890	88
E. R. Littlefield	Block Island	Dec. 30, 1891	76

A. Lovejoy	Pascoag	Feb. 7, 1892	71
W. N. Patt	———	May, 1891	80

NEW YORK.

D. Hyde	Hadley	Jan. 25, 1890	83
W. J. Perry	Byron	Apr. 14, 1890	28
D. Jackson	Varysburg	Dec. 9, 1890	86
I. J. Hoag	Weavertown	Mar. 22, 1891	72
Wm. Whitfield	Pierpont	May 2, 1891	79
W. R. Stone	Binghamton	Dec. 23, 1891	68
A. Griffith	Clymer	May 15, 1892	88
H. P. Guinup	Luzerne	Sept. 11, 1892	—
S. R. Even	———	April, 1890	—

PENNSYLVANIA.

A. H. Fish	———	Jan. 13, 1890	74

OHIO.

R. Clark	Jefferson	Nov. 25, 1889	73
I. Seitz	Tiffin	June 9, 1890	61
E. Pimlot	Sheffield	———	39
J. Inskip	———	Aug. 26, 1891	71
Maranda Searle	———	Jan., 1892	83

MICHIGAN.

E. Doyle	———	Oct. 27, 1889	89
W. Walker	Gobleville	Jan. 12, 1890	56
C. Reynolds	Hillsdale	May 22, 1890	84
E. Fiske	Jackson	Oct. 5, 1890	88
A. A. Collins	Bliss	Nov. 30, 1890	67
J. J. Butler, D. D.	Hillsdale	June 16, 1891	77
S. Smith	Bangor	May 17, 1892	56
Edwin Moffett	———	June 19, 1892	60

ILLINOIS.

H. Thompson	Lebanon	Mar. 3, 1892	—
J. S. Palmer	Prairie Center	June 27, 1892	73
W. L. Smart	So. America	——— 1891	—
F. Moon	Carbondale	Sept., 1892	92
A. J. Hoskinson	Odin	July, 1892	—

WISCONSIN.

E. N. Wright	Waupun	Mar. 8, 1890	75
C. B. Waller	Lake Mills	Feb., 1891	78
G. H. Moon	Oshkosh	Feb. 1, 1892	77

MINNESOTA.

P. Randall	Minneapolis	Jan. 4, 1891	83

IOWA.

L. D. Felt	Masonville	Dec. 2, 1889	78
E. Dudley	Agency City	Feb. 19, 1890	79
C. Pierce	Monticello	Oct. 18, 1890	78

NEBRASKA.

J. L. Lesher	Geneva	Dec., 1890	60

MISSOURI.

S. D. Millay	Avalon	Jan. 5, 1892	80

LOUISIANA.

Reuben Kendrick	New Orleans	Jan., 1892	60

KENTUCKY.

L. Grissom	Marion	Nov. 27, 1891	54

CALIFORNIA.

H. Perry	Rodondo Beach	Nov. 7, 1889	71

INDIA.

A. B. Boyer	Balasore	——— 1891	31

Your committee deems it fitting also to note here the death of Dr. Harry M. Bacheler, son of Rev. O. R. Bacheler, our senior missionary in India, and himself for some years connected with and an efficient worker in that mission. His death occurred at Balasore Nov. 26, 1890. He was 41 years of age.

We have ascertained the age of seventy-two of these brethren and find that the aggregate of all their ages is 5,596 years, the average age is 76 8-9 years. The youngest man, the Rev. W. J. Perry, of Byron, N. Y., was 28; two, the Rev. J. Edgecomb of Mt. Vernon, Me., and the Rev. E. Doyle of Michigan, were 89. Fifty-eight were over 60 years of age; forty-eight were over 70; nineteen were more than 80, and nine more than 85.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. CURTIS,
R. DUNN,
G. C. WATERMAN, } *Committee.*

Lowell, Mass., Oct. 7, 1892.

Treasurer's Report.

1889.			
Sept. 26.	Balance on hand		$496 41
	RECEIPTS.		
	Va. and W. Va. Yearly Meetings on acct. . . .		9 00
	Central N. Y. . . . . Conference	1886,	15 35
" 27.	Central Ill. . . . . "	1889,	17 20
Oct. 8.	N. Y. & Pa. Y. M. . Conferences	1886 and 1889,	20 00
" 14.	J. Fox, Pleasant Plain, O., on acct. Southern work by Conference Board		5 00
Dec. 14.	N. W. Mo. Y. M. . . . . Conference	1889,	1 00
1890			
Sept. 25.	So. Illinois Y. M. . . . . "	1886,	18 50
Oct. 17.	O. & Pa. Y. M. on acct.		6 05
1891.			
May 29.	Genesee Y. M. . . . . Conference	1892,	9 80
June 26.	St. Lawrence Y. M. . . . "	1892,	4 40
July 8.	O. & Pa. Y. M. balance . . . "	1889,	6 38
	O. & Pa. Y. M. on acct. . . "	1892,	5 92
	Wisconsin Y. M . . . . . "	1892,	11 85
Aug. 1.	Vermont Y. M. . . . . "	1892,	16 20
" 24.	W. Missouri Y. M. . . . . "	1889,	5 00
Sept. 10.	No. Nebraska Y. M. . . . "	1892,	2 00
" 17.	Illinois Y. M. . . . . "	1892,	4 67
	Holland Purchase Y. M. . . "	1892,	19 94
Oct. 15.	No. Kansas Y. M. . . . . "	1892,	2 90
Nov. 12.	Michigan Y. M. on acct.		50 00
1892.			
Jan. 27.	Louisiana Y. M. . . . . Conference	1892,	5 20
Feb. 27.	Maine Asso. . . . . "	1892,	95 27
April 13.	St. Joseph's Valley Y. M. . . "	1892,	7 00
" 22.	Rhode Island Asso. . . . "	1892,	26 50

June 4.	Iowa Y. M.	Conference 1892,	12 50
" 8.	N. Y. & Pa. Y. M.	" 1892,	10 13
" 16.	Susquehanna Y. M.	" '89 and 92,	11 09
" 21.	Ontario Asso.	" 1892,	2 51
" 22.	Massachusetts Asso.	" 1892,	18 65
July 15.	W. Pennsylvania Asso. . . .	" 1892,	2 18
" 22.	Minnesota Y. M.	" 1892,	12 16
Aug. 5.	Union Y. M. . . . Conf. 1880, '83, '86, '89, '92,		30 25
Sept. 6.	Central Illinois Y. M. . . .	Conference 1892,	25 51
	Va. & W. Va. Asso. on acct.		8 00
" 7.	Balance O. & Pa. Y. M. . .	Conference 1892,	8 28
" 8.	So. Kansas Y. M.	" 1892,	4 49
" 15.	New Hampshire Y. M. . . .	" 1892,	57 68
" 26.	Kentucky Y. M. on acct.		16 00
" 30.	Michigan Y. M. on acct.		15 00
	Ohio Y. M. . . . . Conferences '86, '89, '92,		16 06
	Total receipts to Oct. 1, 1892		$1,112 03

EXPENDITURES.

1889.		
Sept. 27.	Blank book and rubber bands	$1 50
	Programs Conference 1889, voucher No. 3 . .	10 15
Oct. 9.	Rev. A. T. Salley on acct. Conference sermon 1889, voucher No. 4	20 85
	Clerk's expenses, per vote of Conference, voucher No. 5	28 65
	Balance due acct. Minutes Conference 1886,	6 00
" 22.	G. H. Ball, expenses as delegate to General Baptists, voucher No. 6	30 00
1890.		
Feb. 22.	A. Given, for telegrams, voucher No. 7	7 55
Oct. 7.	Record book and stationery	2 50
" 17.	Telegrams and postage	2 80
1891.		
Jan. 26.	Paid Ass't Clerk for Conference 1889, voucher No. 14	5 00
April 20.	Printing circulars, voucher No. 15	1 25
	Envelopes and postage for same	2 00
	C. A. Hilton, delegate to English Baptists, voucher No. 16	100 00

1892.		
April 25.	Government envelopes	55
Sept. 21.	Clerk's salary Conference 1889 per vote of Conference	50 00
" 23.	Rev. T. H. Stacy, delegate to Nova Scotia Free Baptists, voucher No. 21	23 99
" 30.	Expenses Conference Board to date, vouchers Nos. 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20 . .	248 78
	Total expenditures to Oct. 1, 1892	$541 57
	Balance on hand, Oct. 1, 1892	570 46
		$1,112 03

GEORGE F. MOSHER, *Treasurer.*

We have examined the within report and find it correctly cast and properly vouched.

H. M. FORD,
THOMAS SPOONER,
C. DICKEY,
} *Auditors.*

MINUTES

OF THE

NEW CONFERENCE.

CHARTER.

State of Maine.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE.

AN ACT to incorporate the General Conference of Free Baptists.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:

SECTION 1. Oren B. Cheney, George H. Ball, Laura A. DeMeritte, Clarence A. Bickford, Nathan C. Brackett, Emeline S. Burlingame, Amanda M. Pendleton, Ethnan W. Porter, Orin D. Patch, George F. Mosher, John T. Ward, Richard M. Lawrence, Lewis W. Anthony, Ellen A. Copp, Alpheus W. Gates, Rufus Deering, Elizabeth Colley, Arthur Given, J. Burnham Davis, Cyrus H. Latham DeWitt C. Durgin, Eliza M. Jackson, George A. Gordon, Henry J. Brown, Emily L. Marshall, Oscar E. Baker, Charles S. Perkins, their associates and successors, are hereby constituted a corporation for religious, missionary, educational, and charitable purposes under the name of the General Conference of Free Baptists, and by that name shall have power to prosecute and defend suits at law, to use a common seal and to change the same at pleasure, to take and hold for the objects of said corporation by gift, grant, bequest, purchase, or otherwise, any estate, real or personal

or both, the annual income of which shall not exceed one hundred thousand dollars, and to sell and convey any estate, real or personal or both, which the interests of said corporation may require to be sold and conveyed.

SEC. 2. The said corporation may choose all necessary officers, and adopt such a constitution and such by-laws, the same not being repugnant to the constitution and laws of this State, as they may deem expedient for the management of their affairs from time to time; and they shall be and they are hereby invested with all the powers, privileges, rights, and immunities incident to similar corporations.

SEC. 3. The persons named in the first section of this act as members of the said General Conference of Free Baptists shall be members thereof only until the said Conference shall be duly organized under a constitution and by-laws as provided in section two of this act; and from and after the time when the said Conference shall be thus organized the members thereof shall be such persons as may be chosen delegates by the Associations, Yearly Meetings, and other bodies composing the said Conference, and such other persons as the said Conference may designate in the constitution which they may from time to time adopt.

SEC. 4. The said General Conference may appoint a board, to be called the Conference Board and to consist of as many members as the Conference may deem necessary, to whom full power may be delegated to act for and in behalf of the Conference from one meeting of the Conference to another.

SEC. 5. The said General Conference shall hold their stated meetings for the choice of officers and for other purposes in some part of the United States of America. They may hold special meetings in any foreign country. Their officers may be residents of the United States of America or of any foreign country, with the exception of their clerk or recording secretary, who shall always be a citizen of the United States of America.

SEC. 6. The Freewill Baptist Foreign Mission Society, incorporated by an act approved January twenty-nine, eighteen hundred and thirty-three, and amended by an act entitled "An Act additional to An Act to incorporate the Freewill Baptist Foreign Mission

Society," approved February nineteen, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, and amended again by an act entitled "An Act to amend the charter of the Freewill Baptist Foreign Mission Society," approved January twenty-six, eighteen hundred and eighty-three, are hereby authorized and empowered to transfer and deliver to the said General Conference of Free Baptists all their real and personal property and estate, and all their powers, privileges, rights, and immunities, to be held and used by the said Conference for the purposes mentioned in this act; and upon such transfer and delivery all the powers, privileges, rights, and immunities of the said society shall be vested in the said General Conference of Free Baptists.

SEC. 7. The Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society, incorporated by an act approved January twenty-six, eighteen hundred and eighty-three, are hereby authorized and empowered to transfer and deliver to the said General Conference of Free Baptists all their real and personal property and estate, and all their powers, privileges, rights, and immunities, to be held and used by the said Conference for the purposes mentioned in this act, and upon such transfer and delivery all the powers, privileges, rights, and immunities of the said society shall be vested in the said Conference.

SEC. 8. The said General Conference shall have the right to hold and use for the purposes mentioned in this act all the real and personal property and estate, and shall be entitled to all the powers, privileges, rights, and immunities of the Freewill Baptist Home Mission Society, a corporation existing under the laws of the State of New Hampshire by an act approved June twenty-eight, eighteen hundred and thirty-eight, and amended by an act approved June twenty-seven, eighteen hundred and fifty-nine, and amended again by an act approved July five, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven, whenever the said society being duly authorized by the said State of New Hampshire shall transfer and deliver the same.

SEC. 9. The said General Conference shall have the right to hold and use for the purposes mentioned in this act all the real and personal property and estate, and shall be entitled to all the powers, privileges, rights, and immunities of the Freewill Baptist Education Society, a corporation existing under the laws of the State of New Hampshire by an act approved July seven, eighteen hundred and

forty-six, and amended by an act approved June twenty-nine, eighteen hundred and seventy, entitled "An Act in amendment of An Act to incorporate the Freewill Baptist Education Society," whenever the said society being duly authorized by the said State of New Hampshire shall transfer and deliver the same.

SEC. 10. All property held by the said societies, and all gifts, bequests, devises, and conveyances of property heretofore made to said societies, or which may hereafter be made to them or any of them, shall be held and used by the said Conference for the purpose designated in the making of the several gifts, bequests, devises, and conveyances, and shall be subject to all the conditions, limitations, and uses contained in the several gifts, bequests, devises, and conveyances to said societies.

SEC. 11. Whenever the said societies or any one of them shall transfer their property to the said Conference, the said Conference shall have the right to hold and use for the purposes mentioned in this act the property that may be thus transferred in addition to the sum of personal and real estate authorized to be held in Section 1 of this act.

SEC. 12. If at the time of the transfer and delivery of the real and personal property and estate of the said societies or of any one of them to the said General Conference of Free Baptists, or at any other time, the said societies or any one of them holds any property, gifts, bequests, or devises which are not transferable, said societies or any one of them shall continue to hold and use the property thus held for the purpose designated in making of the gifts, bequests, devises, or conveyances of property thus held.

SEC. 13. It shall not be necessary for more than nine persons mentioned in the first section of this act, as corporators to constitute a quorum for the acceptance of this act, and the said Conference shall have the right to fix the number to constitute their quorum from time to time, and also to fix the number to constitute the quorum of their Conference Board.

SEC. 14. Oren B. Cheney, George H. Ball, Laura A. DeMeritte, Clarence A. Bickford, and Nathan C. Brackett, or any five persons mentioned in the first section of this act may call the first meeting of this corporation by giving notice of the time and place in some

paper published in this State, at least fourteen days before the time of holding said meeting.

SEC. 15. This act shall take effect when approved.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Jan. 19, 1891.

This bill, having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

BENJAMIN F. CHADBOURNE, *Speaker pro tem.*

IN SENATE, Jan. 19, 1891.

This bill, having had two several readings, passed to be enacted.

CHARLES F. LIBBY, *President.*

Approved January 19, 1891.

EDWIN C. BURLEIGH, *Governor.*

STATE OF MAINE,
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE.

I hereby certify that the paper to which this is attached is a true copy of the original deposited in this office.

{ SEAL } In testimony whereof I have caused the seal of the State to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at Augusta this twentieth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one, and in the one hundred and fifteenth year of the independence of the United States of America.

S. J. CHADBOURNE, *Deputy Secretary of State.*

CALL FOR MEETING.

State of Maine.

General Conference of Free Baptists.

The first meeting of the General Conference of Free Baptists, under the act of the Maine Legislature approved Jan. 19, 1891, will be held in the temple at Ocean Park, in the town of Old Orchard, in the State of Maine, on Monday, the third day of October next, at two o'clock in the afternoon, for the transaction of any business that may properly come before it.

OREN B. CHENEY,
GEORGE H. BALL,
LAURA A. DEMERITTE,
CLARENCE A. BICKFORD,
NATHAN C. BRACKETT,
} Authorized to call the first meeting.

Ocean Park, Old Orchard, Me., Aug. 1, 1892.

The above call for the first meeting was printed in the *Lewiston (Me.) Journal*, on Aug. 8, A. D. 1892.

GEORGE F. MOSHER, *Clerk pro tem.*

MINUTES.

OCEAN PARK, OLD ORCHARD, ME.,
Oct. 3, 1892.

In pursuance of the foregoing notice Oren B. Cheney, George H. Ball, Nathan C. Brackett, DeWitt C. Durgin, Richard M. Lawrence, George A. Gordon, Rufus Deering, Alpheus W. Gates, Arthur Given, Charles S. Perkins, George F. Mosher, Ellen A. Copp, Elizabeth Colley, Laura A. DeMeritte, Eliza M. Jackson, Emeline Burlingame Cheney, and Emily L. Marshall met at the time and place indicated in said notice.

O. B. Cheney was chosen temporary chairman and George F. Mosher was chosen temporary clerk, the latter taking the oath of office as follows:

STATE OF MAINE, YORK SS.,
Oct. 3, 1892.

Personally appeared George F. Mosher, duly elected clerk *pro tem.* of the meeting of the incorporators of the General Conference of Free Baptists, and made oath that he would faithfully and impartially discharge the duties of said office according to the best of his ability. Before me,

HIRAM KNOWLTON, *Justice of the Peace.*

Prayer was offered by George A. Gordon, and the meeting adjourned to meet in the parlor of the Granite State Hotel at Ocean Park in thirty minutes.

The persons hereinbefore named reassembled in accordance with the adjournment. An object of the meeting was declared to be the incorporation of the

Freewill Baptist Connection of North America, in accordance with instructions given by the said Connection at its triennial Conference at Marion, Ohio, in 1886, and repeated at its next triennial Conference at Harper's Ferry, W. Va., in 1889.

A charter that had been granted by the Legislature of the State of Maine was read, and after due consideration, on motion, the same was unanimously adopted. (*See first pages of record.*)

An act of the Legislature of the State of New Hampshire, authorizing the Freewill Baptist Home Mission Society and the Freewill Baptist Education Society to transfer their property and rights to the General Conference of Free Baptists, was read and ordered to be made a part of this record, as follows:

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE.

AN ACT authorizing the Freewill Baptist Home Mission Society and the Freewill Baptist Education Society to transfer their property and rights to the General Conference of Free Baptists.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

SEC. 1. The Freewill Baptist Home Mission Society, a corporation created by the laws of this State by an act approved June 28, 1838, and the Freewill Baptist Education Society, a corporation created by the laws of this State by an act approved July 7, 1846, are hereby authorized and empowered to transfer and deliver to the General Conference of Free Baptists, a corporation created by the Legislature of the State of Maine by an act approved January 19, 1891, all their real and personal property and estate, and all

their powers, privileges, and rights, to be held and used by said General Conference of Free Baptists for religious, missionary, educational, and charitable purposes.

SEC. 2. All property held by said Freewill Baptist Home Mission Society and said Freewill Baptist Education Society, and all gifts, bequests, devises, and conveyances of property heretofore made to said societies, or either of them, or which may hereafter be made to them, or either of them, shall be held and used by the said General Conference of Free Baptists for the purpose designated in the making of the several gifts, bequests, and conveyances, and shall be subject to all the conditions, limitations, and uses contained in the several gifts, bequests, devises, and conveyances to said societies respectively, and upon such transfer and delivery the powers, privileges, and rights of said societies respectively shall be vested in said General Conference of Free Baptists.

SEC. 3. If at the time of the transfer and delivery of the real and personal property and estate of said societies to said General Conference of Free Baptists either of the said societies holds any property, gifts, bequests, or devises which are not transferable said societies shall continue to hold and use the property thus held by them respectively for the purpose designated in the making of the gifts, bequests, devises, or conveyances of property thus held.

SEC. 4. This act shall take effect on its passage.

FRANK G. CLARK, *Speaker House of Reps.*
JOHN MCLANE, *Pres. of Senate.*

Approved February 18, 1891.

HIRAM A. TUTTLE, *Governor.*

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,
SECRETARY'S OFFICE CONCORD,
March 2, 1892.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original act as filed in this office.

In testimony whereof I hereunto subscribe my official signature and affix the seal of the State.

C. B. RANDLETT, *Deputy Secretary of State.*

{ SEAL }

J. Burnham Davis appeared and took his seat with the incorporators.

On motion of N. C. Brackett Pres. O. B. Cheney was appointed a committee to present a draft of a constitution and by-laws for the incorporated body.

George H. Ball was called to the chair, and Pres. Cheney read a draft of a constitution and by-laws, which on motion of D. W. C. Durgin was considered item by item, and after various amendments was finally adopted in the following form:

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF FREE BAPTISTS.

ARTICLE I. The bodies composing the General Conference of Free Baptists shall be the New Hampshire Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Maine Free Baptist Association, the Vermont Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Massachusetts Free Baptist Association, the Rhode Island Free Baptist Association, the Connecticut and Western Rhode Island Free Baptist Association, the Holland Purchase Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Genesee Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Susquehanna Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Saint Lawrence Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Union Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the New York Central Free Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Western Pennsylvania Free Baptist Association, the Ohio and Pennsylvania Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Central Ohio Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Ohio Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Ohio River Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Ohio and Kentucky Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the West Virginia Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Indiana Freewill Baptist Association, the Michigan Freewill Baptist Association, the Illinois Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Southern Illinois Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the

Central Illinois Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Wisconsin Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Minnesota Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Iowa Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Nebraska Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Northern Nebraska Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Northern Kansas Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Southern Kansas Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Golden Gate Free Baptist Association, the Virginia and West Virginia Free Baptist Association, the Kentucky Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Louisiana Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Ontario Free Baptist Association, the Bengal and Orissa Free Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Western Missouri Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Northwestern Missouri Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the South Carolina Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Mississippi Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Prosperity Free Baptist Association, the Denton Creek Freewill Baptist Association, the Mount Moriah Freewill Baptist Association, the North Missouri Freewill Baptist Association, the Pleasant Hill Freewill Baptist Association, the Union Baptist Association, and such other bodies of evangelical polity believing in the divinity of Christ, a general atonement, the necessity of regeneration, the immersion of believers, and the communion of all Christians, as may be admitted to the Conference by a two-thirds vote at any regular meeting.

ART. 2. The object of this Conference shall be to devise and execute, either directly or through its servants, plans for the extension and strengthening of the kingdom of Christ through Free Baptist churches and influence; for the maintenance of Free Baptist Foreign Mission interests; for the establishment and support of Free Baptist educational institutions; for the publication and circulation of Free Baptist literature; for the formation and development of Free Baptist Sunday-schools and young people's societies, and for the employment of all means that shall perfect the organization, increase the prestige, and promote the growth of the Free Baptist denomination.

ART. 3. This Conference shall have authority to apportion to the Yearly Meetings a due ratio of the amount necessary to prosecute the denominational work, and to ask contributions from Yearly

Meetings or Associations, Quarterly Meetings, churches, and individuals, as occasion may require. Gifts and bequests to the various denominational societies shall become the property of this Conference, and be held in trust for the special objects for which they were given, when these societies, singly or severally, shall transfer their work to the Conference.

It shall be the duty of the Conference to receive and act upon communications from the bodies belonging to it. It shall have the right to discipline, and if necessary exclude, any Association, Yearly Meeting, or other body belonging to it; but in no case shall it have power to reverse or change the decisions of churches, Quarterly Meetings, or any other religious bodies.

ART. 4. The members of the Conference shall be such persons as may be chosen delegates by the bodies composing the Conference according to the following ratio of representation, namely: One delegate from each body belonging to the Conference, an additional delegate for the first thousand resident members, and one for each additional thousand resident members or the major part thereof, and such persons as may be members of the Conference Board, all of whom shall be members from one stated meeting to another, or until others shall be chosen in their stead.

ART. 5. An Association, Yearly Meeting, or other body entitled to an even number of delegates, shall elect one-half of them from the laity, and such as are entitled to an odd number shall elect the next lowest even number equally from the laity and the ministry, and the remaining one from the laity or the ministry at its discretion. This article and Article 4 shall not take effect until the session of Conference next succeeding the one accepting the charter and adopting this constitution.

ART. 6. By authority of Section 4 of the charter there shall be appointed by ballot from persons who may or may not be members of the Conference a Conference Board to consist of twenty-one members, to which is hereby delegated full power to act for and in behalf of the Conference from one meeting of the Conference to another. Not less than one-third of this Board shall be of either sex.

ART. 7. The officers of this Conference shall be a president,

two vice-presidents, a clerk, an assistant clerk, a corresponding or general secretary, a treasurer and an auditor, who shall respectively hold office until the Conference succeeding the one at which they were chosen, or until others shall be chosen in their stead.

ART. 8. The president shall preside in all meetings of the Conference, and, unless it is otherwise ordered, appoint all the committees necessary to be appointed.

One of the vice-presidents shall preside in the absence of the president, and in the absence of both vice-presidents a president *pro tem.* shall be chosen.

The clerk and assistant clerk shall take the required oath of office before a magistrate, keep a true record of the doings of the Conference, and certify that the same is true.

The corresponding or general secretary shall perform such duties as the Conference Board may from time to time determine.

The treasurer shall give bonds satisfactory to the Conference Board; have the custody of the property of the Conference; receive and duly dispose of all moneys paid into the treasury under the direction of the Conference Board; keep an accurate account of all moneys received and expended or invested, and submit the same to the auditor or to the committees of the Conference or of the Conference Board; report receipts, at least quarterly, in one or more of the denominational publications, and make to the Board, at least once a year, a particular statement of the receipts and expenditures of the Conference.

The auditor shall, at least once a year, make a careful examination of the accounts and vouchers of the treasurer, and submit the same to the Conference Board.

ART. 9. The president, clerk, assistant clerk, and treasurer shall be chosen by ballot.

ART. 10. The president and treasurer shall sign all deeds, bonds, notes, etc., and other papers by which the Conference is to become legally held.

ART. 11. Vacancies occurring by death, resignation, or otherwise in the delegation of any Association, Yearly Meeting, or other body belonging to the Conference, may be filled by the body in which the vacancy occurs in any way it may elect. Vacancies

occurring in the Conference Board, or in any office of the Conference or of the Conference Board, shall be filled by the Conference Board.

ART. 12. A stated meeting of the General Conference shall be held every third year in August or September, or at such time and place as the Conference or Conference Board may determine, the time and place being given in some paper published in the State of Maine at least thirty days before the time of holding said meeting. Special meetings may be called in the same way, provided that notice shall also be sent to each member of the Conference, post prepaid, directed to their address thirty days before the time of holding such meeting.

ART. 13. Nine members of the Conference shall constitute a quorum of the Conference for the transaction of business until the Conference shall be duly organized by the delegates from the bodies composing it, and after that time thirty-three members of the Conference shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a less number may adjourn.

ART. 14. The Conference Board shall be divided into three equal classes, the term of office of one class to expire and their successors to be elected at each and every regular session of Conference. The said Board shall have power to choose all needful officers, adopt all rules needful for its own government, and to carry out the plans and undertakings of the Conference, make contracts, employ agents, execute legal papers, collect and appropriate funds, and exercise all the powers and functions of the General Conference not in conflict with its rules, resolutions, and directions. It shall keep a faithful record of all its proceedings, make a full report at each regular session of the Conference, and be subject to and comply with all directions, requests, and regulations of the Conference. Seven members of this Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ART. 15. This constitution may be amended during the first stated session by a majority vote of the members present, and at any stated session thereafter by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided such amendment has been proposed in writing at a previous session by a member of the Conference, or proposed in writing at any time by the Conference Board, due notice of the

proposed change or changes having been given at least thirty days beforehand in not less than two denominational papers and a paper in the State of Maine.

BY-LAWS.

1. All persons declared by a committee on credentials to be duly elected delegates to the Freewill Baptist General Conference, to meet at Lowell, Mass., Oct. 5, 1892, are hereby made and constituted members of this corporation and authorized to act in all respects according to the provisions of the charter, constitution, and by-laws under which this Conference is organized.

2. It shall be the duty of every Yearly Meeting, Association, or other body belonging to the Conference to send a letter to every stated meeting of the Conference, reporting in the same its spiritual condition, its works of benevolence, and its statistics. Any Yearly Meeting, Association, or other body belonging to the Conference, which shall fail to report itself for two successive sessions may be dismissed from the Conference by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

3. Each meeting of the Conference shall be opened by prayer.

4. At each regular session of the Conference the following standing committees shall be appointed: The Denomination, Doctrine, Church Polity, Bible Cause, Education, Sunday-schools, Temperance, The Country, The Ministry, Publications, Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Requests, Correspondence, Young People's Work, Closing Resolutions. All petitions and communications on particular subjects shall be referred to their appropriate committees. Special committees may be appointed at the pleasure of the Conference.

5. This Conference may hold correspondence by messenger or otherwise with other religious bodies.

6. This Conference shall sit with open doors except when it may go into committee of the whole.

7. Any person not a member of this Conference may be allowed to take part in its discussions by obtaining permission of the Conference.

8. It shall be the duty of all the members of this Conference to be present at the time appointed for each meeting, and any one wishing to retire shall first obtain leave of the chair.

9. No member shall absent himself from Conference during its meetings without first obtaining permission from the Conference.

10. No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of any committee, *provided* the person nominated be elected.

11. The yeas and nays may be taken on any question by request of one-fifth of the members present.

12. These by-laws may be amended during the first stated session of the Conference by a majority vote of the members present, and at any subsequent session by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

Rufus Deering, Esq., of Portland, Me., was chosen by ballot clerk of the corporation, and George F. Mosher was chosen by ballot assistant clerk.

The oath of office was then administered to the clerk and assistant clerk by Hiram Knowlton, Esq., a magistrate of Portland, Me.

Pres. O. B. Cheney was elected by ballot president of the corporation, and after prayer by Rev. D. W. C. Durgin the meeting adjourned to to-morrow morning at 7 o'clock.

GEORGE F. MOSHER, *Clerk pro tem.*

GRANITE STATE HOTEL,
OCEAN PARK, ME., Oct. 4, 1892.

The meeting was called to order at 7 o'clock A. M., by Pres. Cheney, and prayer was offered by Rev. William K. Jackson of Wisconsin.

Ballots were cast for members of a Conference Board, and the following named persons were chosen:

CONFERENCE BOARD.

Oren B. Cheney, George H. Ball, Laura A. DeMeritte, Clarence A. Bickford, Nathan C. Brackett, Emeline Burlingame Cheney, Amanda M. Pendleton, George F. Mosher, Richard M. Lawrence, Ellen A. Copp, Alpheus W. Gates, Rufus Deering, Elizabeth Colley, Arthur Given, J. Burnham Davis, DeWitt C. Durgin, Eliza M. Jackson, George A. Gordon, Emily L. Marshall, Charles S. Perkins, John T. Ward.

The president and assistant clerk were appointed a committee to procure printed copies of the charter, constitution, and by-laws.

Prayer was offered by Rev. J. Burnham Davis, and the corporation adjourned to meet in the Paige Street Free Baptist Church, in Lowell, Mass., at 9 A. M. Oct. 6, 1892.

GEORGE F. MOSHER, *Assistant Clerk.*
RUFUS DEERING, *Clerk.*

PAIGE ST. FREE BAPTIST CHURCH,
LOWELL, MASS., Oct. 6, 1892.

The corporation met in this place at 9 o'clock A. M., according to adjournment. Pres. Cheney was in the chair. On motion of George H. Ball voted to take a recess until 11 o'clock this forenoon.

The meeting came to order at the expiration of the recess. Prayer was offered by B. F. Zell of Ohio, George H. Ball of New York, and Mrs. Altie W. Phillips of New Hampshire, and after some preliminary discussion the meeting adjourned to the same place at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

The corporation met at 3 o'clock this afternoon, according to the last adjournment. Pres. Cheney was

in the chair. All those in attendance at the previous sessions were present. The records of all the previous sessions, including those of Oct. 3 and 4 at Ocean Park, were read and approved.

On motion of George H. Ball, and in accordance with Article 1 of the by-laws of the corporation, it was voted to accept the official roll of the 28th General Conference of the Freewill Baptist Connection in North America, now holding its session in Lowell, Mass., as the roll of this body. The following named persons were accordingly enrolled as members of the corporation:

NEW HAMPSHIRE YEARLY MEETING.— Rev's Solomon Cole and A. J. Eastman, Mrs. Altie W. Phillips, Rev. J. W. Scribner, Mrs. M. G. Osgood, Rev. L. Dexter, Miss Laura A. DeMeritte, and Rev's G. L. White and M. P. Tobey.

MAINE ASSOCIATION.— E. D. Wade, B. C. Jordan, J. C. Smith, H. J. Preble, R. Deering, Mrs. M. R. Wade, Rev. M. Summerbell, Prof. J. A. Howe, Rev's N. S. Purington and O. B. Cheney, E. E. Davis, H. Knowlton, L. M. Webb, and Mrs. E. S. B. Cheney.

VERMONT Y. M.— Rev. J. W. Burgin, Chester Dickey, and R. W. Churchill.

MASSACHUSETTS ASSO.— Rev's T. Spooner and E. P. Moulton, and Mrs. A. R. Emery.

CONN. AND WESTERN RHODE ISLAND ASSO.— Rev. Mrs. L. Fenner.

RHODE ISLAND ASSO.— Rev's E. G. Wesley and E. W. Porter, Mrs. S. A. Porter, and James W. Williams, Esq.

HOLLAND PURCHASE Y. M.— Rev. Z. A. Space, Mrs. A. C. McKoon, and Rev. S. Aldrich.

GENESEE Y. M.— Rev. G. R. Holt.

SUSQUEHANNA Y. M.— A. W. Gates.

N. Y. AND PA. Y. M.— Rev. W. S. Smith.

ST. LAWRENCE Y. M.— Rev. B. G. Blaisdell.

UNION Y. M.— Rev. C. S. Pendleton.

N. Y. CENTRAL Y. M. —Rev's A. F. Bryant, A. E. Wilson, and E. Newell.

WESTERN PA. ASSO.— Rev. J. Calder.

OHIO AND PA. Y. M.— Rev's T. H. Drake and E. A. Estey.

OHIO Y. M.—Rev. J. H. Baldwin.

CENTRAL OHIO Y. M.— Rev's B. F. Zell and L. F. Sherritt.

OHIO RIVER Y. M.— Rev's J. M. Davis, J. W. Martin, and T. E. Peden.

OHIO AND KY. Y. M. — Rev. Stephen Fisher.

INDIANA ASSO.— Rev. T. J. Mawhorter.

MICHIGAN ASSO.— Rev's R. Dunn, J. D. McColl, F. R. Randall, Mrs. J. M. West, Rev's J. H. Maynard and H. M. Ford.

ILLINOIS Y. M.— Rev. C. R. Calkins.

SOUTHERN ILL. Y. M.—Rev's N. Ricks and J. S. Manning.

CENTRAL ILL. Y. M.— Rev's M. A. Shepard, J. L. Meads, and G. A. Gordon.

WISCONSIN Y. M. Rev. O. H. True and Mrs. E. M. Jackson.

MINNESOTA Y. M.— Rev's G. A. Burgess and J. J. Hull.

IOWA Y. M.— Rev. D. D. Mitchell and Mrs. T. B. True.

NO. KANSAS Y. M.— Mrs. N. L. Abbey.

VA. AND WEST VA. ASSO.— Rev. C. C. Wainwright.

KENTUCKY Y. M. — Rev. Z. Harrison.

MISSISSIPPI Y. M.— Rev's G. H. Jones and J. M. Coleman.

NEBRASKA Y. M.— Rev. J. S. Dinsmore.

Dr. Cheney resigned the office of president of the corporation, and the resignation was accepted. A ballot was immediately taken for a successor, and Dr. James A. Howe of Lewiston, Me., was unanimously elected president. Dr. Howe took the chair and prayer was offered by Rev. G. C. Waterman.

Ballots were then cast for two vice-presidents, and Pres. G. A. Burgess of Minnesota and Pres. J. M. Davis of Ohio were elected to that office.

On motion of H. J. Preble of Maine, and in accordance with Article 15 of the constitution and Article 12 of

the by-laws it was voted to refer the constitution and by-laws to a committee of five, to be appointed by the president, for amendment. The president appointed as such committee O. B. Cheney and H. Knowlton of Maine, George H. Ball of New York, J. M. Davis of Ohio, and L. M. Webb of Maine.

Prayer was offered by Bro. Hamlin of Maine, and the meeting adjourned to 8.15 o'clock to-morrow morning.

LOWELL, MASS., Oct. 7, 1892, 8.15 A. M.

The corporation met according to adjournment, the president in the chair. The roll was called and a quorum ascertained to be present. Prayer was offered by Rev. M. A. Shepard of Ohio. The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The committee to amend the constitution and by-laws reported, explaining that several persons had appeared before the committee and were heard with reference to amendments and changes.

The report of the committee was considered article by article. It was proposed to amend Article 1 of the constitution by eliminating the list of bodies to compose the Conference from the article itself and append it as a foot-note to the article. The article was so amended.

The committee reported Article 2 of the constitution in a new form as follows:

ART. 2. The object of this Conference shall be to devise and execute measures for the extension of the kingdom of Christ in connection with the various bodies herein represented.

The amendment of Article 2 was adopted.

The committee proposed to amend Article 3 by inserting

the words "or Associations" in the second line after the words "Yearly Meetings," and omitting the last six lines of the article. The motion to accept the amendment was discussed, fear being expressed by several that if the proposed amendments were made the independence of the churches would not be sufficiently guarded.

Chester Dickey of Vermont moved to amend the report of the committee by striking out that part which proposed to expunge the last six lines of the article. A motion to refer the article back to the committee was withdrawn, and a motion by Miss L. A. DeMeritte of New Hampshire, to lay the article on the table, prevailed.

It was proposed to amend Article 4 so that it should read as follows:

ART. 4. Each Yearly Meeting or Association belonging to this Conference shall be entitled to representation by one delegate; and every Yearly Meeting or Association whose church communicants amount to one thousand five hundred to two delegates and one delegate for each additional thousand church-members or major part thereof.

The article was so amended.

The committee reported in favor of omitting Article 5 of the constitution, and this item of the report was adopted.

A motion to further amend Article 4 by adding the words "A suitable proportion of delegates shall be from the laity" was laid upon the table.

The committee further reported in favor of combining portions of Article 6 and Article 14 so as to make a new article, numbered 5, which should read as follows:

ART. 5. There shall be chosen by ballot from persons in good standing in the denomination, who may or may not be members of the Conference, a Conference Board to consist of twenty-one members to be elected at each triennial meeting, to which is hereby delegated full power to act for and in behalf of the Conference from one regular meeting of the Conference to another. The said Board shall have power to choose all needful officers, adopt all rules needful for its own government and to carry out the plans and undertakings of the Conference, make contracts, employ agents, authorize the execution of legal papers, collect and appropriate funds, and exercise all the powers and functions of the General Conference not in conflict with its rules, resolutions, and directions. It shall keep a correct record of all its proceedings, make a full report at each regular session of the Conference, and be subject to and comply with all directions, requests, and regulations of the Conference. Nine members of this Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. All members of the Conference Board shall be members *ex officio* of the Conference.

These amendments as reported were then adopted.

It was proposed to amend Article 7, renumbered 6, by striking out the words "a corresponding or general secretary" at the end of the second and beginning of the third lines, and adding the words "all to be chosen by ballot" after the word "auditor" in the third line; also by inserting the words "next regular" before the word "Conference," and by striking out the words "succeeding the one at which they were chosen" after that word in the fourth line, and by inserting the words "and qualified" after the word "chosen" in the fifth line.

These amendments, as proposed by the committee, were adopted.

Article 8, renumbered 7, was amended, in accordance with the report of the committee, by striking out th

two lines beginning with the words "The corresponding" and ending with the words "to time determine," and inserting in their place the words "The clerk shall be a resident of the State of Maine, and shall keep a clerk's office in said State in accordance with the laws thereof," to be followed by the words "the clerk and assistant clerk may or may not be members of the Conference," and by modifying the remaining portion of the article so that it should read as follows:

The treasurer shall give bonds satisfactory to the Conference Board, and shall receive and dispose of all moneys paid into the treasury under the directions of the Conference Board, and keep an accurate account of the same, and make a full report quarterly and at such other times as he shall be requested by the Board of the Conference, which report shall be published in at least two of the denominational papers. The auditor shall, at least once a year, make a careful examination of the accounts and vouchers of the treasurer, and submit the same to the Conference Board.

The committee further reported in favor of striking Article 9 from the constitution, and the report was adopted.

The committee reported Article 10 renumbered 8 and Article 11 renumbered 9, but without further change; and the report was adopted.

Article 12 was reported as Article 10 of the amended constitution, and in the following form:

ART. 10. A meeting of the Conference shall be held every third year in August or September, or at such time and in such place as the Conference or Conference Board may determine, the time and place being stated in some paper published in the State of Maine, and in at least two of the denominational papers if such exist, at least ninety days before the time of holding said meeting. Special meetings may be called in the same way, provided that notice shall

be sent to each member of the Conference, post prepaid, directed to the last known address, thirty days before the time of holding such meeting.

The amendments were adopted.

The committee further reported in favor of amending Article 13, renumbered 11, by striking out all before the words "thirty-three members" in the fourth line, and inserting the words "call to order and" before the last word in the article.

The article was so amended.

Article 14 having been combined with Article 6 as already noted in this record the committee reported Article 15 renumbered 12, and in the following form:

ART. 12. This constitution may be amended at any triennial session by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided such amendment has been proposed in writing at a previous session by a member of the Conference, or proposed in writing at any time by the Conference Board, a Yearly Meeting, or an Association, due notice of the proposed change or changes having been given at least six months beforehand in a paper published in the State of Maine and in not less than two denominational papers if such exist.

The amendment was adopted in the form reported by the committee.

Prayer was then offered by Pres. Howe, and the Conference adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

LOWELL, MASS., Oct. 7, 1892.

The Conference reassembled at 2 o'clock. Pres. Howe was in the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. J. Erskine of New Hampshire. The roll was called and a quorum was ascertained to be present. The minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

Consideration of the report of the committee to amend the constitution and by-laws was resumed, and L. M. Webb of Maine moved to still further amend the new Article 5 of the constitution by inserting the words "at least one-third of whom shall be women" in the sixth line of said article after the word "members." The motion was discussed pro and con, and finally prevailed by a yea and nay vote, 39 voting for and 21 voting against the motion.

Article 3 of the constitution was taken from the table. The question was on the adoption of the report of the committee on amendment. The question was divided, and the motion to amend by inserting the words "and Associations" after the words "Yearly Meetings" in the second line prevailed, but the motion to strike out the last six lines of the article was lost. The article was then further amended by striking out the words "It shall be the duty of the Conference to receive and act upon communications from the bodies belonging to it," and also by striking out the last five words of the article.

The motion to further amend Article 4 of the constitution by adding the words "A suitable proportion of delegates shall be from the laity" was taken from the table and after discussion it was indefinitely postponed by a yea and nay vote of 36 for and 34 against the motion to so postpone.

The committee on amendments continued its report, taking the by-laws in order. The first by-law was unchanged. The second by-law was amended by changing the word "stated" to "triennial" at the beginning of the third line. The third by-law was not

changed. The fourth by-law was amended by striking out the words "Bible Cause" from the list of standing committees and adding the words "New West" to that list. The fifth by-law was amended by substituting the word "correspond" for the words "hold correspondence." The twelfth by-law was amended by striking out the word "stated" at the end of the first line.

Pres. J. M. Davis of Ohio offered the following resolution and moved its passage:

Resolved, That the constitution prepared by the Conference Board as amended by this Conference be recommended to the Yearly Meetings and other bodies entitled to representation in this Conference for ratification, as an amendment to the old constitution.

Dr. Ball spoke against this resolution, and moved the passage of the following resolution as a substitute for it:

Whereas, The General Conference of Freewill Baptists ordered its Conference Board to secure a legal corporation of the Conference, and in pursuance of that order the Board has obtained a charter, naming the corporators chosen by the General Conference at Harper's Ferry three years ago, and these corporators have adopted a constitution and by-laws; and

Whereas, In the very nature of the case it is impossible to submit the question of adopting this constitution to the action of the Yearly Meetings and Associations because of legal obstacles in the way of such submission, and for no other reason; therefore,

Resolved, That the several Yearly Meetings and Associations are affectionately requested to accept this corporation as their own and to cordially unite in an effort to render the corporation a living force by which the decline of the denomination may be arrested and the tide be turned in the other direction.

Pending consideration of this motion prayer was offered by Rev. J. S. Manning, and the Conference adjourned to half-past eight this evening.

LOWELL, MASS., Oct. 7, 8.30 P. M.

The Conference came to order at the appointed time. The roll was called and a quorum was ascertained to be

present. The records of the afternoon session were read and approved.

The objection was raised that Dr. Ball's resolution offered at the afternoon session was not in order because Dr. Ball was not a member of the Conference, and the president sustained the objection.

The question was then on the adoption of the resolution offered by Davis of Ohio. Peden, Drake, and Sherritt of Ohio and Porter of Massachusetts spoke in its favor.

Dr. Summerbell of Maine then offered the following resolutions, and moved that they be substituted for the Davis resolution:

Resolved, That the General Conference of Free Baptists hereby recommend the Yearly Meetings and Associations constituting the General Conference of Freewill Baptists of North America to consider the organization and incorporation of the General Conference of Free Baptists as effected at Ocean Park and perfected at Lowell under instructions given by General Conference at Harper's Ferry, and if approving the same to express their approval by formal action, to be reported at once thereafter to R. Deering, clerk of the General Conference of Free Baptists, at his office in Portland, Me.; and

Resolved, That the various benevolent societies connected with the denomination which are expected to become merged into the General Conference of Free Baptists are advised for the time being to continue their work as at present constituted; and,

Resolved, That when the Yearly Meetings and Associations representing three-fourths of the resident membership of the denomination shall have approved of the organization of the General Conference of Free Baptists it shall be understood as the will of the denomination that the various benevolent societies aforesaid transfer their funds and merge their interests into and with the General Conference of Free Baptists.

The president ruled that the expression of opinion provided for in the foregoing resolutions was to be by the resident membership, and no objection was made to the ruling.

The motion to substitute prevailed, and the substituted resolutions were then unanimously adopted.

Prayer was offered by Rev. E. A. Estey of Pennsylvania, and the Conference adjourned to half-past eight tomorrow morning.

LOWELL, MASS., Oct. 8, 1892.

The Conference met at 8.30 o'clock this morning. The president was in the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. Dunn of Michigan. The roll was called and a quorum was present. The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

L. M. Webb of Maine moved to further amend Article 10 of the constitution as reported by the committee by inserting the words "to be called by the president or clerk" after the word "Conference" in the first line of said article, and by inserting the words "at the direction of the Conference Board" after the words "special meetings" in the twelfth line of the article. The motion prevailed and the article was so amended.

Delegates Webb and Knowlton of Maine were excused from further attendance after this afternoon's session.

H. Knowlton of Maine offered the following resolution, and it was unanimously adopted, namely:

Resolved, That the several votes and all the acts of the persons named in the act of incorporation granted by the Legislature of Maine in accepting the act of incorporation of the General Conference of Free Baptists at Ocean Park in the County of York and State of Maine, including the adjournment from the said Ocean Park to the Paige St. Free Baptist church in Lowell, Mass., be and are hereby approved and ratified.

All the members of the Conference Board which had been chosen at Ocean Park, Me., Oct. 4, 1892, presented

their resignations as members of the said Board, and the resignations were all accepted.

Dr. Summerbell of Maine moved that a committee of five be appointed to select the names of forty-two persons from whom the twenty-one members of the Conference Board, as provided for in Article 5 of the amended constitution, shall be chosen. But on motion of Zell of Ohio to so amend the motion that the members of the Board may be nominated from the floor, Dr. Summerbell withdrew his motion, and it was then voted, on motion of Zell of Ohio, to nominate the members of the Conference Board directly from the floor. This vote was then reconsidered, and it was voted, on motion of Drake of Ohio, to nominate by ballot persons for election to the Conference Board.

The President appointed C. S. Pendleton of New York and E. A. Estey of Pennsylvania tellers to collect and count the votes.

A motion by Estey of Pennsylvania that the person receiving the highest number of votes on each ballot be regarded as nominated was lost, and on motion of E. Newell of New York it was voted to reconsider the vote to nominate the members of the Board by ballot. Drake of Ohio then moved the appointment of a committee of five on nominations, as proposed by Summerbell of Maine, and the motion prevailed.

On motion of J. W. Williams of Rhode Island it was voted that each member of this Conference vote for five persons, all of whom shall be members of the Conference, and the five persons receiving the highest number of votes shall be the nominating committee.

The nominating committee thus chosen was composed of Drake of Ohio, who received 28 votes; Webb of Maine, who received 21 votes; Zell of Ohio, who received 18 votes; Davis of Ohio, who received 17 votes; and Summerbell of Maine, who received 16 votes.

The report of the treasurer of the Printing Establishment was assigned to two o'clock this afternoon.

On motion of Wesley of Rhode Island it was voted that the secretary of the General Theological Library of Boston be invited to present the claims of the library next Tuesday at 10 A. M.

On motion of Williams of Rhode Island the nomination of candidates for treasurer and auditor of the Conference was referred to the committee already chosen to nominate candidates for election to the Conference Board.

At the request of the executive committee of the United Societies of A. C. F. time was given that organization for a convention next Monday evening in connection with the papers already on the program for that evening.

On motion of E. W. Porter of Massachusetts it was declared to be the sense of this Conference that the work of the standing committees should be referred to the unchartered Conference, and their reports be made to that body. It was so ordered.

On motion of Dr. Cheney of Maine the motion to amend the fourth by-law by striking out the words "Bible Cause" from the list of standing committees, was reconsidered and by vote of the Conference the

words "Bible Cause" were restored to the list of said committees.

After a half-hour's devotional service the Conference adjourned to two o'clock this afternoon.

LOWELL, MASS., Oct. 8, 1892.

The Conference reassembled at 2 P. M. Prayer was offered by Rev. J. W. Burgin of Vermont. The roll was called and a quorum was present. The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Brethren A. W. Anthony and C. F. Penney of Maine were invited to seats in the Conference, to participate in its proceedings but not to vote.

L. M. Webb of Maine offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the list of forty-two names which the committee on nominations are to report be printed in a suitable form for a ballot, and that a sufficient number be printed for the use of the delegates as ballots, space being left for additional names.

2. That the names be not reported nor made public until said printed ballot is prepared.

3. That when the ballot is taken it be for the twenty-one members of the Board on one ballot, and that the names of all for whom the member does not wish to vote be erased, names not on the list being added if the member so desires.

4. That if a delegate vote for more than fourteen men and seven women that vote shall not be counted.

The resolutions were adopted and Mr. Webb was appointed a committee to procure the ballots thus provided for, and 4 o'clock this afternoon was designated as the hour when the ballot should be taken.

Rev. F. L. Wiley, who had been appointed on a committee to consider the advisability of Free Baptists participating in an interdenominational exhibit at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893,

reported, and the report was referred to the Conference Board with power when it shall have been chosen.

The treasurer of the Printing Establishment read his report and the same was placed on file.

In view of the report Rufus Deering of Maine offered the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas, The Freewill Baptist Printing Establishment is the property of the whole denomination, and whereas it is very essential that the said Establishment have the goodwill and hearty coöperation of all our people; therefore,

Resolved, That the corporators of the Freewill Baptist Printing Establishment be and hereby are requested to so amend their by-laws that vacancies on their board occasioned by the expiration of a term of office [or otherwise] shall be filled from a number of individuals who have been previously nominated by the General Conference or Conference Board, the number of persons to be so nominated each year to be twice the number to be elected.*

Mr. Deering spoke in favor of the resolution and moved its passage.

The motion was discussed by the editor of the *Morning Star*, by Drake of Ohio, Cole of New Hampshire, Porter of Massachusetts, Shepard and Meads of Illinois, and Wade of Maine, who showed loyalty to the Printing Establishment and generally favored the resolution.

G. A. Burgess of Minnesota moved to amend the resolution by adding the words "or otherwise" after the words "term of office" in the fourteenth line and by including the *Free Baptist* in the terms of the resolution.

It was explained that the business relation of the *Free Baptist* to the denomination was not such as to admit of its being included in the terms of the resolution. The

* The Conference Board has nominated the following persons for choice to fill vacancies occurring by expiration of terms next July: I. W. Anthony, L. M. Webb, Esq., J. S. Hart, Rev. A. Given, Rev. G. R. Holt, and Mrs. E. H. Andrews.

motion to amend was lost as to the *Free Baptist*, but was adopted as to the words "or otherwise."

The resolution as amended was then adopted.

On motion of J. W. Williams of Rhode Island the twelfth by-law as originally reported was renumbered 13, and a new by-law, numbered 12, was adopted as follows:

12. No member of this Conference shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes on one subject, and but once on the same subject, without permission of the Conference.

The committee on nominations reported, presenting the names of Rev. Arthur Given for treasurer, and Daniel G. Wood, Esq., for auditor of the chartered Conference. A ballot was then taken and the persons named were elected to the offices designated.

The committee further reported, presenting the names of the following persons from whom members of the Conference Board are to be chosen:

MALES.

1.	A. E. Wilson, N. Y.	2.	R. D. Lord, N. Y.
3.	G. H. Ball, N. Y.	4.	C. A. Bickford, Mass.
5.	Thomas Spooner, Mass.	6.	A. L. Gerrish, Mass.
7.	L. W. Anthony, R. I.	8.	E. W. Porter, R. I.
9.	J. B. Jordan, R. I.	10.	Lewis Malvern, N. H.
11.	J. B. Davis, N. H.	12.	G. C. Waterman, R. I.
13.	Rufus Deering, Maine.	14.	A. W. Anthony, Maine,
15.	B. C. Jordan, Maine.	16.	T. H. Stacy, Maine.
17.	E. E. Davis, Maine.	18.	J. M. Davis, Ohio.
19.	T. H. Drake, Ohio.	20.	B. F. Zell, Ohio.
21.	O. D. Patch, Ohio.	22.	G. F. Mosher, Mich.
23.	H. M. Ford, Mich.	24.	J. D. McColl, Mich.
25.	N. C. Brackett, W. Va.	26.	G. A. Burgess, Minn.
27.	D. D. Mitchell, Iowa.	28.	J. Calder, Penn.

FEMALES.

1.	Mrs. Cheney, Maine.	2.	Mary A. Davis, N. H.
3.	Ella H. Andrews, R. I.	4.	L. A. DeMeritte, N. H.
5.	Ellen A. Copp, Mich.	6.	S. L. Gates, N. Y.
7.	A. C. McKoon, N. Y.	8.	Alice Hulse, Wis.
9.	Clara A. Ricker, Mass.	10.	Thera B. True, Iowa.
11.	A. M. Metcalf, R. I.	12.	M. A. W. Bachelder, Mich.
13.	Mary Dickey, Vt.	14.	N. L. Abbey, Kan.

The chair appointed Summerbell of Maine and Estey of Pennsylvania to collect and assort the ballots.

After reconsidering the vote fixing the hour of 4 o'clock this afternoon when the balloting for members of the Conference Board should begin, prayer was offered by Rev. T. H. Drake of Ohio, and the Conference adjourned to half-past seven this evening.

LOWELL, MASS., Oct. 8, 1892.

The Conference met according to adjournment. The president was in the chair. Prayer was offered by C. R. Calkins of Illinois. The roll was called and a quorum was present. The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

A ballot for members of the Conference Board was then taken, resulting as follows:

Ballots received and counted 64; necessary to a choice 33.

L. M. Webb, F. L. Hayes, Z. A. Space, G. W. Daigh, T. S. Williams, E. M. McVey, J. Blackstone, H. R. Davis, Joseph Meads, G. A. Gordon, C. A. Vincent, Mrs. Thomas E. Peden, Mrs. G. N. Howard, Mrs. A. Pendleton, Mrs. C. L. Pinkham, Mrs. M. K. Jackson, Mrs. S. A. Porter, Mrs. T. H. Drake, had 1 each. R. M. Lawrence, J. J. Hull, O. B. Cheney, Mrs. E. L. Marshall, Mrs. G. A. Gordon, had 2 each. R. Dunn had 3. M. A. Shepard had 4. A. Given and Mrs. J. T. Ward had 7 each. E. E. Davis had

10. Mrs. A. M. Metcalf had 12. J. B. Davis had 14. Mrs. S. L. Gates had 15. J. Calder, J. D. McColl, B. F. Zell, had 17 each. E. W. Porter had 19. J. B. Jordan and Mrs. Mary Dickey had 20 each. Mrs. N. L. Abbey had 21. A. L. Gerrish and B. C. Jordan had 22 each. Mrs. Alice Hulse and Mrs. A. C. McKoon had 25 each. T. H. Drake and Mrs. Mary A. Davis had 26 each. T. Spooner had 27. G. C. Waterman and Mrs. Clara A. Ricker had 28 each. L. W. Anthony and T. H. Stacy had 29 each. D. D. Mitchell had 31. George H. Ball, Mrs. Mary A. W. Bachelder, and Mrs. Thera B. True had 33 each. Orin D. Patch had 34. Clarence A. Bickford and Lewis Malvern had 35 each. A. E. Wilson had 36. John M. Davis and Henry M. Ford had 38 each. Mrs. Ella H. Andrews had 39. Alfred W. Anthony had 40. Rivington D. Lord had 43. Nathan C. Brackett had 45. Miss Laura A. DeMeritte had 46. Rufus Deering had 48. Mrs. Emeline Burlingame Cheney had 50. George F. Mosher and Mrs. Ellen A. Copp had 52 each. G. A. Burgess had 55.

Accordingly George H. Ball, Orin D. Patch, Clarence A. Bickford, Lewis Malvern, A. E. Wilson, John M. Davis, Henry M. Ford, Alfred W. Anthony, Rivington D. Lord, Nathan C. Brackett, Rufus Deering, George F. Mosher, G. A. Burgess, Mrs. Mary A. W. Bachelder, Mrs. Thera B. True, Mrs. Ella H. Andrews, Miss Laura A. DeMeritte, Mrs. Emeline Burlingame Cheney, and Mrs. Ellen A. Copp — thirteen men and six women — were all declared elected on the first ballot.

Dr. Summerbell of Maine was then instructed by the Conference to cast its ballot for the man and woman each having the number of votes nearest to the number necessary for a choice on the first ballot, and that the persons so voted for should complete the election of members of the Board. This was done, and D. D. Mitchell and Mrs. Clara A. Ricker were declared elected.

On motion of Williams of Rhode Island it was voted to further amend Article 6 of the amended constitution

by adding to the article the words "The clerk, assis ant clerk, treasurer, and auditor may be chosen fro persons who are not members of this Conference."

It was voted that the constitution and by-laws finally amended be printed in the minutes of this bod

The following resolution, presented by Williams Rhode Island, was adopted:

Resolved, That the treasurer of this Conference be hereb authorized to receive from the treasurer of the General Conferen of the Freewill Baptist Connection in North America all such pro erty and sums of money as the treasurer of said General Confe ence of the Freewill Baptist Connection in North America may l vote be authorized to transfer, deliver, assign, and set over to t treasurer of this Conference, and to hold the same in all respec under the same conditions, powers, and privileges as held by t said treasurer of the Freewill Baptist Connection in Nor America.

After prayer by Rev. A. E. Wilson of New York th Conference adjourned to Monday morning, Oct. 10, half-past eight o'clock.

LOWELL, MASS., Oct. 10, 1892.

The Conference met at half-past eight this morning according to adjournment. Prayer was offered by Re C. C. Wainwright of Virginia. The roll was calle and a quorum was present. The minutes of the la session were read and approved.

It was announced that the collection taken yesterd in the Paige St. church was given by the church to th fund for needy ministers.

Rev. T. J. Mawhorter of Indiana offered the fo lowing resolution, which was adopted:

Recognizing the efficiency of the work done by the lay delegat on the floor of this Conference and the necessity of bringing the into a close relationship with our denominational work, and des

ing their presence in our councils because of their business tact and experience; therefore,

Resolved, That we recommend that the Yearly Meetings and Associations in the future recognize the rights of the laity and choose a part of their delegates therefrom.

The Conference then adjourned to to-morrow morning at 8.15 o'clock.

LOWELL, MASS., Oct. 11, 1892.

The Conference met according to adjournment. The president was in the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. S. Cole of New Hampshire. The roll was called and a quorum was present. The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion of Williams of Rhode Island it was voted to further amend Article 7 of the amended constitution by adding after the word "papers" the words "The treasurer shall be a member *ex officio* of the Conference;" and also by striking out the words "The clerk and assistant clerk may or may not be members of the Conference."

On motion of E. E. Davis of Maine Article 12 of the Constitution was further amended by striking out the words "during the first stated session by a majority vote of the members present and," and also by dropping the word "thereafter."

Chester Dickey of Vermont moved that the thirteenth by-law be amended so that it shall read as follows:

13. These by-laws may be amended at any triennial session by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

The article was so amended.

The constitution and by-laws were then read as amended, and adopted as a whole in the following form:

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF FREE BAPTISTS.

[This is the form as finally amended and adopted by the General Conference.]

ARTICLE I. The General Conference of Free Baptists shall be composed of delegates from the several bodies now composing the General Conference of the Freewill Baptist Connection in North America,* together with the delegates from such other bodies hold-

*The General Conference of the Freewill Baptist Connection in North America is composed of the following bodies: The New Hampshire Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Maine Free Baptist Association, the Vermont Yearly Meeting of Free Baptists, the Massachusetts Free Baptist Association, the Rhode Island Free Baptist Association, the Connecticut and Western Rhode Island Free Baptist Association, the Holland Purchase Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Genesee Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Susquehanna Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the St. Lawrence Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Union Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the New York Central Free Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Western Pennsylvania Free Baptist Association, the Ohio and Pennsylvania Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Central Ohio Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Ohio Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Ohio River Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Ohio and Kentucky Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the West Virginia Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Indiana Freewill Baptist Association, the Michigan Freewill Baptist Association, the Illinois Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Southern Illinois Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Central Illinois Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Wisconsin Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Minnesota Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Iowa Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Nebraska Yearly Meeting of Free Baptists, the Northern Nebraska Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Northern Kansas Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Southern Kansas Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Golden Gate Free Baptist Association, the Virginia and West Virginia Free Baptist Association, the Kentucky Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Louisiana Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Ontario Free Baptist Association, the Bengal and Orissa Free Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Western Missouri Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Northwestern Missouri Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the South Carolina Freewill BaptistYearly Meeting, the Mississippi Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Prosperity Free Baptist Association, the Denton Creek Freewill Baptist Association, the Mount Moriah Freewill Baptist Association, the North Missouri, Freewill Baptist Association, the Pleasant Hill Freewill Baptist Association, the Union Baptist Association.

ing an evangelical faith, believing in the divinity of Christ, a general atonement, the necessity of regeneration, the immersion of believers as the only Scriptural baptism, and the communion of all Christians, as may be admitted to the Conference by a two-thirds vote at any regular meeting.

ART. 2. The object of this Conference shall be to devise and execute measures for the extension of the kingdom of Christ in connection with the various bodies herein represented.

ART. 3. This Conference shall have authority to apportion to the Yearly Meetings and Associations a due ratio of the amount necessary to prosecute the denominational work, and to ask contributions from Yearly Meetings or Associations, Quarterly Meetings, churches, and individuals, as occasion may require. Gifts and bequests to the various denominational societies shall become the property of this Conference, and be held in trust for the special objects for which they were given, when these societies, singly or severally, shall transfer their work to the Conference.

It shall have the right to discipline, and if necessary to exclude, any Association, Yearly Meeting, or other body belonging to it; but in no case shall it have power to reserve or change the decisions of churches or Quarterly Meetings.

ART. 4. Each Yearly Meeting or Association belonging to this Conference shall be entitled to representation by one delegate; and every Yearly Meeting or Association whose church communicants amount to one thousand five hundred, to two delegates and one delegate for each additional thousand church-members or major part thereof.

ART. 5. There shall be chosen by ballot from persons in good standing in the denomination, who may or may not be members of the Conference, a Conference Board to consist of twenty-one members, at least one-third of whom shall be women, to which is hereby delegated full power to act for and in behalf of the Conference from one regular meeting of the Conference to another. The said Board shall have power to choose all needful officers, adopt all rules needful for its own government and to carry out the plans and undertakings of the Conference, make contracts, employ agents, authorize the execution of legal papers, collect and appropriate funds, and exercise

all the powers and functions of the General Conference not in conflict with its rules, resolutions, and directions. It shall keep a correct record of all its proceedings, make a full report at each regular session of the Conference, and be subject to and comply with all directions, requests, and regulations of the Conference, Nine members of this Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. All members of the Conference Board shall be members *ex officio* of the Conference.

ART. 6. The officers of this Conference shall be a president, two vice-presidents, a clerk, an assistant clerk, a treasurer, and an auditor, all to be chosen by ballot, who shall respectively hold office until the next regular Conference and until others shall be chosen and qualified in their stead. The clerk, assistant clerk, treasurer, and auditor may be chosen from persons who are not members of this Conference.

ART. 7. The president shall preside in all meetings of the Conference, and unless it is otherwise ordered, appoint all the committees necessary to be appointed.

One of the vice-presidents shall preside in the absence of the president, and in the absence of both vice-presidents a president *pro tem.* shall be chosen.

The clerk and assistant clerk shall take the required oath of office before a magistrate, keep a true record of the doings of the Conference, and certify that the same is true.

The clerk shall be a resident of the State of Maine and shall keep a clerk's office in said State in accordance with the laws thereof.

The treasurer shall give bonds satisfactory to the Conference Board, and shall receive and dispose of all moneys paid into the treasury under the directions of the Conference Board, and keep an accurate account of the same, and make a full report quarterly and at such other times as he shall be requested by the Board of the Conference, which report shall be published in at least two of the denominational papers. The treasurer shall be a member *ex officio* of the Conference.

The auditor shall, at least once a year, make a careful examination of the accounts and vouchers of the treasurer, and submit the same to the Conference Board.

ART. 8. The president and treasurer shall sign all deeds, bonds, notes, etc., and other papers by which the Conference is to become legally held.

ART. 9. Vacancies occurring by death, resignation, or otherwise in the delegation of any Association, Yearly Meeting, or other body belonging to the Conference, may be filled by the body in which the vacancy occurs in any way it may elect. Vacancies occurring in the Conference Board, or in any office of the Conference or of the Conference Board, shall be filled by the Conference Board.

ART. 10. A meeting of the General Conference to be called by the clerk or president shall be held every third year, in August or September, or at such time and place as the Conference or Conference Board may determine, the time and place being given in some paper published in the State of Maine, and in at least two of the denominational papers, if such exist, at least ninety days before the time of holding said meeting. Special meetings at the directions of the Conference Board may be called in the same way, provided that notice shall be sent to each member of the Conference, post prepaid, directed to their last known address, thirty days before the time of holding such meeting.

ART. 11. Thirty-three members of the Conference shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a less number may call to order and adjourn.

ART. 12. This constitution may be amended at any triennial session by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided such amendment has been proposed in writing at a previous session by a member of the Conference, or proposed in writing at any time by the Conference Board, a Yearly Meeting, or an Association, due notice of the proposed change or changes having been given at least six months beforehand in a paper published in the State of Maine and in not less than two denominational papers if such exist.

BY-LAWS.

1. All persons declared by a committee on credentials to be duly elected delegates to the Freewill Baptist General Conference,

to meet at Lowell, Mass., Oct. 5, 1892, are hereby made and constituted members of this corporation and authorized to act in all respects according to the provisions of the charter, constitution, and by-laws under which this Conference is organized.

2. It shall be the duty of every Yearly Meeting, Association, or other body belonging to the Conference to send a letter to every triennial meeting of the Conference, reporting in the same its spiritual condition, its works of benevolence, and its statistics. Any Yearly Meeting, Association, or other body belonging to the Conference, which shall fail to report itself for two successive sessions may be dismissed from the Conference by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

3. Each meeting of the Conference shall be opened by prayer.

4. At each regular session of the Conference the following standing committees shall be appointed: The Denomination, Doctrine, Church Polity, Education, Sunday-schools, Temperance, The Country, The Ministry, Publications, Home Missions, The New West, Foreign Missions, Requests, Correspondence, Young People's Work, Bible Cause, Closing Resolutions. All petitions and communications on particular subjects shall be referred to their appropriate committees. Special committees may be appointed at the pleasure of the Conference.

5. This Conference may correspond by messenger or otherwise with other religious bodies.

6. This Conference shall sit with open doors except when it may go into committee of the whole.

7. Any person not a member of this Conference may be allowed to take part in its discussions by obtaining permission of the Conference.

8. It shall be the duty of all the members of this Conference to be present at the time appointed for each meeting, and any one wishing to retire shall first obtain leave of the chair.

9. No member shall absent himself from Conference during its meetings without first obtaining permission from the Conference.

10. No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of any committee, *provided* the person nominated be elected.

11. The yeas and nays may be taken on any question by request of one-fifth of the members present.

12. No member of this Conference shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes, and but once on the same subject, without permission of the Conference.

13. These by-laws may be amended at any triennial session of the Conference by a two-thirds vote of the members present, and at any subsequent session by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

The president and assistant clerk were instructed by vote of Conference to edit and cause to be printed and circulated the charter, constitution, and by-laws of this body and the resolution offered by Dr. Summerbell of Maine which provided for taking the opinion of the Yearly Meetings and Associations on the new constitution.

It was moved by A. W. Anthony of Maine that it be the sense of this body that its minutes and the minutes of the unchartered Conference be printed and bound under the same covers at the expense of the treasury of the unchartered body.

The motion was divided, and that part of it relating to the printing of the minutes of the chartered conference was referred to the Conference Board.

It was moved by O. H. True of Wisconsin that the treasurer of this Conference be authorized to hire a sum not to exceed $500 to pay the expenses of the Conference.

The motion prevailed by a rising vote of 46 to 8.

J. W. Williams of Rhode Island offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Conference Board of this Conference be and

hereby is authorized to receive from the treasurer of the General Conference of the Freewill Baptist Connection in North America, whenever it shall be voted by that body, all such funds as shall be in the hands of said treasurer and constituting the aged and needy ministers' fund (so called), to be held by said Conference Board in all respects for the purposes for which it was originally constituted.

The resolution was adopted.

Notice was given by James W. Williams of Rhode Island of a proposed amendment to the Constitution, to be acted on at the next triennial session, as follows:

I hereby propose that Article 5 of the Constitution of the General Conference of Free Baptists be amended by erasing and droping therefrom the following words, viz. "at least one-third of whom shall be women."

A similar notice was given by Rev. E. A. Estey of Pennsylvania of an amendment to Article 11 of the Constitution so that "General Conference can appoint its own officers in case any vacancies occur."

Prayer was offered by Rev. J. W. Martin of Ohio, and the Conference adjourned to 4 o'clock this afternoon.

LOWELL, MASS., Oct. 11, 1892.

The Conference met at 4 o'clock this afternoon. The president was in the chair. A quorum being present the Conference proceeded to business. Rev. C. A. Bickford resigned his membership in the Conference Board, but the resignation was not accepted.

On motion of A. W. Anthony of Maine it was declared by vote to be the opinion of this body that its next triennial session should be held in Winnebago City, Minn.

J. W. Williams of Rhode Island offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That when we adjourn we adjourn to meet according to the constitution at a date to be named by the Conference Board.

The resolution was adopted.

The office of the clerk was designated for the present as No. 390 Commercial St., Portland, Me., where the records of the Conference shall be kept.

On motion of C. Dickey of Vermont the Conference then adjourned.

A true record.

RUFUS DEERING, *Clerk.*
GEORGE F. MOSHER, *Asst. Clerk.*

MINUTES

OF THE

9th General Conference

OF

Free Baptist

1895

MINUTES

OF THE

Twenty-Ninth

General Conference

OF

FREE BAPTISTS

HELD AT

WINNEBAGO CITY, MINN., OCT. 2-8, 1895

BOSTON
The Morning Star Publishing House
1896

Statistical Table of the Twenty-Ninth General Conference, 1895.*

Yearly Meetings and Associations.	Delegates.	Number of Q. M's.	Number of Churches.	Number of Ministers.†	Number of Members.	Increase.	Decrease.
Conference Board‡	Mrs. Ella H. Andrews, R. I.; Mrs. M. A. W. Bachelder, Mich.; G. H. Ball, N. Y.; C. A. Bickford, Mass.; N. C. Brackett, W. Va.; G. A. Burgess, Minn.; Mrs. E. B. Cheney, Me.; Mrs. Ellen A. Copp, Mich.; J. M. Davis, O.; Rufus Deering, Me.; Miss L. A. DeMeritte, N. H.; H. M. Ford, Mich.; R. D. Lord, N. Y.; Lewis Malvern, N. H.; D. D. Mitchell, Ia.; G. F. Mosher, Mich.; O. D. Patch, O.; Mrs. Clara A. Ricker, Me.; Mrs. Thera B. True, Ia.; John T. Ward, Minn.; A. E. Wilson, N. Y.						
Balasore & Midnapore	Z. F. Griffin, E. B. Stiles	2	13	30	983	195	
Central Nebraska	S. F. Smith	2	6	6	102	102	
Conn. & W. R. I.		1	8	12	480	117	
Cumberland, Tenn. §							
Denton Creek, Texas §							
East Pennsylvania	W. F. Cranston		2	2	108	6	
Genesee, N. Y.	L. W. Raymond	3	21	17	1,183		109
Golden Gate, Cal.		1	3	5	177		2
Holland Purchase, N. Y.	J. H. Durkee, Z. A. Space, Chas. Clark	5	32	39	2,209		64
Illinois	L. H. Brown	5	17	14	510	190	
Illinois Central	T. O. McMinn, M. A. Shepard, G. A. Gordon	5	54	64	3,250		276
Illinois Southern	N. Ricks, E. Wood	5	64	66	2,851	201	
Indiana	D. A. Tucker, J. W. Haggerty	5	27	23	1,651	253	
Iowa	H. T. Clark, Thos. McElroy	7	44	25	1,504		365
John Wheeler, Tenn.		2	11	15	511		32
Kansas Northern	W. P. Van Wormer	4	12	13	471	39	
Kansas Southern	J. W. McLaughlin	2	6	6	203		108
Kentucky		2	28	26	1,467	176	
Louisiana	J. Blackstone	4	37	65	1,273	470	
Maine	E. E. Davis, Mrs. L. M. Davis, R. Deering, W. H. Fultz, B. F. Hayes, T. I. Jordan, H. C. Lowden, N. S. Purinton,						
[illegible]	M. Summerbell, Mrs. Mary R. Wade, L. M. Webb	17	250	172	23,795		439

Mississippi		3	35	8[illegible]	[illegible]	470	
Mt. Moriah, Ala		2	11	8	607		
Nebraska	E. S. Branch	4	19	93	771	47	
Nebraska Northern		2	9	7	101		139
New Hampshire	N. A. Avery, F. C. Clark, Lewis Dexter, Mrs. A. E. Dexter, J. Erskine, W. H. Getchell, R. E. Gilkey, B. F. Jefferson, C. S. Perkins	8	100	97	8,212		3
New York Central	L. H. Sprague, E. Newell	3	27	23	2,168	216	
New York & Penn.	R. M. Cloud, G. H. Ball	5	33	19	1,581	190	
Northern Texas		3	18	34	686	205	
North Missouri		1	8	9	366		45
Northwest Missouri		2	7	3	147	24	
Ohio	S. E. Kelley	2	10	8	615		157
Ohio Central	H. G. Hill, D. B. Martin	5	25	16	1,661	24	
Ohio & Penn.	T. C. Lawrence, L. F. Sherritt	5	34	34	1,922	154	
Ohio River	W. J. Fulton, E. N. Long, Miss Ruth E. Brockett	7	56	59	2,798	100	
Ohio & Kentucky		4	30	24	1,345		208
Ontario, Can.		1	4	1	201		14
Pennsylvania. §							
Pleasant Hill		3	17	17	743	11	
Prosperity, Mo.		1	8	13	375		
Rhode Island	G. B. Cutler, H. R. Farnum, Mrs. A. M. Metcalf, J. W. Parsons	1	27	28	3,889	248	
South Carolina		2	10	7	610		
Southeastern Missouri		2	15	17	867	100	
Southwestern Missouri		3	17	13	425	425	
St. Lawrence, N. Y.		2	14	14	723	179	
Susquehanna, N. Y. & Pa.	S. S. Schnell	3	29	19	728	15	
Union, N. Y.		2	10	9	659		121
Union Asso. E. Tenn. §							
Union Baptist Asso., Kan.		1	12	10	295		
Vermont	F. E. Davison	5	42	38	2,124		321
Va. & W. Va	F. W. Porter	2	22	29	1,325	249	
West Missouri		2	10	20	636		548
Western Pennsylvania		2	12	20	590	73	
West Va.		4	31	33	1,096	275	
Wisconsin	E. O. Dickinson, J. M. Kayser	6	39	30	1,269		287
Q. M's not connected		7	33	39	1,420	289	
Churches not connected			7	8	585	193	
Total, 57	96	204	1,579	1,573	86,920	5,830	3,238

* The basis of this table is the reports furnished General Conference, supplemented by the tables in the *Register* of 1895. † Includes licentiates. ‡ Members *ex officio*. § No report.

COMMITTEES.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Denomination.—Ward of Minn., Dickinson of Wis., Mrs. Metcalf of R. I., Branch of Neb., Erskine of N. H.

Doctrine.—Ball of N. Y., Perkins of N. Y., Gordon of Ill., Maynard of Mich., Cutler of R. I.

Church Polity.—Summerbell of Me., Higbee of Minn., Kayser of Wis., Mrs. Ricker of Mass., Sprague of N. Y.

Education.—Burgess of Minn., Mrs. Copp of Mich., Miss Brockett of O., Space of N. Y., Lowden of Me.

Sunday-schools.—Parsons of R. I., Twort of Mass., McMinn of Ill., Mitchell of Iowa, Blackstone of La., Tree of Mich.

Temperance.—Dexter of N. H., Farnum of R. I., Mrs. True of Ia., Miss Moody of Mich., Tucker of Ind.

The Country.—Webb of Me., Getchell of N. H., Hill of O., Newell of N. Y., Ricks of Ill.

The Ministry.—Hayes of Me., Given of Mass., Avery of N. H., Martin of O., Jordan of Me.

Publications.—Miss DeMeritte of N. H., Patch of O., Ford of Mich., Lowden of Mass., Fulton of O.

Requests.—Patch of O., Given of Mass., Hallack of Mich., Durkee of N. Y., Twort of Mass.

Young People's Work.—Raymond of N. Y., Lawrence of O., Towner of Mich., Cutler of R. I., Mrs. Dexter of N. H., Cranston of Penn.

Bible Cause.—Porter of W. Va., Clark of Ia., Mrs. Davis of Me., Wood of Ill., Clark of N. Y.

Finance.—Deering of Me., Russell of Mass., Mrs. Andrews of R. I., Batson of Minn., Kelley of O.

The New West.—VanWormer of Kan., Haggerty of Ind., McLaughlin of Kan., Jefferson of N. H., Long of O.

Home Missions.—Lord of N. Y., McElroy of Ia., Shepard of Ill., Mrs. Wade of Me., Mitchell of Ia., Smith of Neb.

Foreign Missions.—Mrs. Cheney of Me., Davison of Vt., Miss Garwood of Mich., Cloud of N. Y., Sherritt of O.

Correspondence.—Mrs. Bachelder of Mich., Davis of Me., Brown of Ill., Fultz of Me., Clark of N. H.

Closing Resolutions.—Summerbell of Me., Wilson of N. Y., Mrs. True of Ia., Schnell of N. Y.

RETAINED COMMITTEES.

*Conference Board**.—Mrs. E. H. Andrews, Mrs. M. A. W. Bachelder, ~~G. A. Burgess~~, Mrs. E. B. Cheney, Mrs. E. A. Copp, ~~R. Deering~~, Miss L. A. DeMeritte, E. O. Dickinson, Mrs. L. M. P. Durgin, H. M. Ford, W. J. Fulton, A. Given, G. A. Gordon, R. D. Lord, G. F. Mosher, O. D. Patch, E. W. Porter, Mrs. T. B. True, W. P. Van Wormer, L. M. Webb, J. T. Ward.

Ministerial Record.—A. L. Freeman of Massachusetts, G. H. Ball, D. D., of New York. R. Dunn, D. D., of Michigan.

Publishing Minutes.—N. S. Purinton and M. Summerbell of Maine.

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* *Officers of Conference Board.*—R. D. Lord, Pres.; Mrs. E. B. Cheney, Vice. Pres.; H. M. Ford, Clerk; A. Given, Cor. Sec. and Treas.

MINUTES.

WINNEBAGO CITY, MINN., Wednesday, Oct. 2, 1895.

The twenty-ninth session of the General Conference of Free Baptists assembled at the Free Baptist church in Winnebago City, Minn., and was called to order by Vice-pres. Burgess at 10.30 A. M.; in accordance with the call duly published in the *Morning Star*, the *Free Baptist*, and the *Lewiston* (Me.) *Journal*.

The devotions were led by the Rev. C. S. Perkins of New Hampshire. The official call of the Conference was then read by N. S. Purinton, the clerk, as follows:

The next session of the General Conference of Free Baptists will be held at Winnebago City, Minn., on Wednesday, Oct. 2, 1895, at 10.30 A. M., for the purpose of electing a president, two vice-presidents, a clerk, an assistant clerk, a treasurer, an auditor, and for the transaction of any business that may properly come before said Conference.

Dated at West Bowdoin, Me., this twenty-seventh day of June, A. D. 1895. N. S. PURINTON, *Clerk of Gen. Conf.*

On motion of Webb of Maine a committee on Credentials was appointed by the chair as follows: Patch of Ohio, Mitchell of Iowa, Cutler of Rhode Island, Ford of Michigan, and Newell of New York.

On motion of Ward of Minnesota it was voted that when Conference adjourned it should be to meet at the Presbyterian church in Winnebago, at 10.40 A. M. On motion the Conference adjourned in accordance with this vote. N. S. PURINTON, *Clerk.*

WINNEBAGO CITY, MINN., Wednesday, Oct. 2, 1895.

The Conference assembled as per adjournment in the Presbyterian church, Vice-Pres. Burgess presiding. The Scriptures were read by Rev. B. F. Jefferson of New Hampshire, and prayer was offered by Rev. G. A Gordon of Illinois.

The Conference sermon was then delivered by Prof. B. F. Hayes, D. D., of Cobb Divinity School, Lewiston, Me.

After the sermon business was resumed, and on motion of Perkins of New Hampshire it was voted that when Conference adjourns it be to this place at 1.30 P. M. to-day. After the closing prayer by Rev. C. H. True of Iowa the Conference adjourned.

N. S. PURINTON, *Clerk.*

WINNEBAGO CITY, MINN., Oct. 2, 1895.

The Conference met as per adjournment at 1.30 P. M., Vice-Pres. Burgess in the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. R. E. Gilkey of New Hampshire. The minutes of the morning sessions were read and approved.

The committee on Credentials then offered a partial report, which showed that a quorum was present. On motion of Webb of Maine the report was adopted. On

motion of Webb of Maine it was voted to approve the records of the General Conference as held in Lowell, Mass.

On motion of Webb of Maine the clerk was directed to read the records relating to the adoption of the constitution, and of the transactions affecting it, made since the Lowell Conference. The records having been read accordingly, on motion they were approved.

An informal ballot was then taken for president of the Conference. Davison of Vermont, and Avery and Getchell of New Hampshire were appointed tellers. The vote having been taken, the chair announced the result as follows: whole number of votes 74, necessary for a choice 38. Of these O. D. Patch had 1, L. W. Raymond 1, Mrs. E. B. Cheney 1, B. F. Hayes 2, L. M. Webb 2, R. D. Lord 7, G. H. Ball 8, G. A. Burgess 12, G. F. Mosher 40.

The formal ballot was then taken for president, and Pres. Geo. F. Mosher, LL. D., of Hillsdale College, Mich., was unanimously elected.

On motion of Webb of Maine the chair appointed a committee on Nominations, to present the names for the remaining officers of the Conference. The following were appointed: Lowden of Massachusetts, Lord of New York, Mrs. Cheney of Maine, Maynard of Michigan, Mrs. True of Iowa.

After consultation the committee on Nominations presented a report, which was accepted. On motion of Ward of Minnesota the election of treasurer was deferred to Friday morning. A ballot was then taken, and

the following persons were elected to the several positions as designated:

G. A. Burgess of Minnesota as first vice-president, Mrs. Ella H. Andrews of Rhode Island as second vice-president, N. S. Purinton of Maine as clerk, Rev. D. D. Mitchell of Iowa as assistant clerk, and Daniel G. Wood of Rhode Island as auditor.

The oath of office was administered to the clerk and assistant clerk by W. D. Smith, Esq., a magistrate of Winnebago City, Minn.

Dea. Deering of Maine then offered amendments to the by-laws as follows:

Art. 4, to add after the words, "Bible cause," in the sixth line, the word "Finance."

Art. 4, to add to said article the following words, "It shall be the duty of the Finance Committee to assist the treasurer in making and managing investments, and to make an annual report of the condition of the same to the Conference Board."

On motion the amendments were adopted unanimously.

Ball of New York moved that Conference now listen to requests for admission to membership. Patch of Ohio presented a request from the Nebraska Central Yearly Meeting for admission, and also from the Eastern Pennsylvania Association. The applications were referred to the committee on Requests.

On motion of Burgess of Minnesota, Rev. John H. Morley, secretary of the Home Mission Society of the Congregationalists in Minnesota and the Rev. Geo. D.

Black of Minneapolis, representing the same society, were then introduced, and offered interesting and fraternal remarks.

Hayes of Maine moved that the chair name a committee to consider all propositions for union with other bodies. After discussion the motion was tabled till Thursday morning.

The report of the Conference Board was then read by Rev. H. M. Ford, its recording secretary, as follows:

As recording secretary of the General Conference Board I beg leave to submit the following report of the business of the Board, and its executive committee, during the last three years.

The book of records shows one hundred and forty-five closely written pages, recording the business of the Board and executive committee, with at least twenty more to add of the business of this session, which closed yesterday. If we should report all the business it would take too long a time, and we can here only give a brief summary of the most important things done. The book is in the secretary's hands, and is open to anyone who may wish to examine it in whole or in part.

There have been held four meetings of the Board, one at Lowell in October, 1892, one at Buffalo in October, 1893, one in Olneyville in October, 1894, and one at Winnebago City Oct. 1, 1895. There have been held five meetings of the executive committee, all held in Boston except one; one in December, 1892, one in April, 1893, one in July, 1894, one in March, 1895, and one in Winnebago City Sept. 30, 1895.

For the first two years the work of the Board was sadly hindered while it waited for the necessary three-fourths vote of the resident membership of the denomination, which turned over to them the business of the three benevolent societies, and this took place only just one year ago, so that the Board has actually had but one year to formulate and carry out its plans. Only a mere beginning could be made in so brief a time.

A constitution has been adopted providing for president, vice-president, recording secretary and treasurer, an executive committee of seven, which shall have general charge and direction of the work of the Board not otherwise provided for during the interim of the meetings, subject to the Board's approval, and a field secretary who shall act as an executive officer under the direction of the Board, or the executive committee.

There is also a foreign mission committee of five, to carry on the work of the foreign mission board during the interim of the executive committee's meetings, except the raising and the appropriating of money and the final appointment of missionaries.

There are also a ministerial relief committee of three, and a finance committee of three. N. S. Purinton of West Bowdoin, Me., was appointed General Conference clerk in place of R. Deering resigned.

The Board a year ago, through a committee, made out with great care the apportionment of the $50,000 for benevolence which General Conference voted, and sent the same to the different Yearly Meetings and Associations, requesting them to apportion the same to their churches, so that each church should have a specific sum to raise.

The field secretary was instructed to go out with this apportionment to meet with Yearly Meeting officers and ask them to allot the apportionment and indorse our general policy and enter into hearty co-operation for more effective work.

The observance of four mission days designated by General Conference at Lowell has been indorsed by the Board, and they have made it as prominent as they could.

They have also issued a new benevolence card, and any amount of them can be had at the *Star* office, and we hope a large number will be wanted.

The appropriations the past year have been as follows: Spring Valley, Va., $100; Brockton, Mass., $100; Worcester, Mass., $100; Winnebago City, Minn., $500; Lincoln, Neb., $300; Nebraska churches, $250; Cleveland Mission, O., $500; Somerville, Mass., $500; Kansas, $400; Harper's Ferry Mission, $850; Harper's Ferry church, $200; Painesville, O., $100; total, $3,900.

wing policy for deeding property to General Conference
that churches holding deeds to church property shall
me to the General Conference, whereupon General Con-
ll re-deed the same to the respective churches, with a
ıat in case it shall cease to be used for the purpose of
'orship by the Free Baptist church for the period of
it shall revert to General Conference, and that no mort-
her lien shall ever be put upon said property. Voted
›peal coming from any church shall have the indorse-
: Quarterly Meeting or Yearly Meeting or the executive
to which it belongs.

at the Conference Board declares itself averse to author-
rass of the churches for the purpose of raising money
:tion of a local church edifice.

›ted that one person from the Church of God, chosen by
, shall act with the committee of five on foreign missions,
aid Church of God select two persons to act with the
Board whenever it has under consideration foreign
tters.

iffin and Stiles have been continued during the past year
rk of canvassing among the churches in the interest of
sions.

at it shall be our policy to sustain existing interests, and
r mission and educational work as rapidly as circum-
rant, but we discourage the starting of new enterprises
e indorsement of General Conference or Conference

g to life members of the several societies which have
their assets to the General Conference Board, it is
ered that they shall be enrolled as honorary members of
l Conference of Free Baptists, with the privilege of seats
ference without the power to vote, and that others be
life members with the same privileges upon payment of
. majority vote of General Conference Board.

›wing form of bequest was voted: "I give, devise, and
o the General Conference of Free Baptists, a corporation
the state of Maine, ———."

Voted that we recommend that hereafter the time for holding the General Conference be changed to the fourth Tuesday in August.

The executive committee which met in March proposed the following policy, which has been indorsed at this meeting of the full Board, viz.: 1. That in the making of appropriations, whether for the home or foreign field, we will carefully avoid exceeding our probable income. 2. That the invested funds of the Board shall be regarded as a sacred trust, never to be used for current expenses or to be infringed upon in any way.

W. P. Van Wormer was appointed as superintendent of our mission work in Kansas, and as pastor of Horton, Kan., church, to give half his time to each interest; and $400 was appropriated toward the expense.

It was also recommended that in view of the treasury deficiency: 1. An article be written for the papers setting forth the condition of the treasury. 2. Call for special gifts. 3. Churches be asked to make special effort. 4. Ask for individual pledges. 5. Ask all the young people's societies to raise ten cents per member. 6. That our field agents have special reference to the debt as they go to the field.

It was voted that Dr. and Mrs. Bacheler at the end of the year be retired on half pay.

A committee of five was appointed to gather the material for a manual to be submitted to the executive committee for their approval before publication.

A plan of affiliation of work of the Woman's Missionary Society with General Conference, proposed by the executive committee in March, and approved by the Woman's Missionary Board in August with slight changes, was presented before the whole Board Oct. 1, together with a minority report, and both were received and the plan was substantially approved by the Board, and a committee of two was appointed to draft the proper notice and to see that it is presented to General Conference for the necessary changes in the constitution providing for such affiliation.

Voted that the management of *The Free Baptist* be requested to report the condition of the paper to General Conference.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. M. FORD, *Recording Secretary.*

On motion the report of the Conference Board was accepted as read.

The corresponding secretary of the Conference Board, the Rev. Arthur Given, D. D., then submitted his report, as follows:

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

The year has been one of anxiety because of the financial situation. We opened the year with a debt of $8000. In accordance with the wish of the donor, $3000 placed in the permanent fund the preceding year was this year transferred to the general or usable fund, reducing the debt by so much. The $5000 received from bequests has made it possible to reduce the debt $2000 more. At the close of the year there was a deficit, including the remittance to India, which was then a liability, of $3000. If all our people had made a little effort in this direction we could have had a balance on the right side; but when we remember the faithful ones who have stood by the work, remembering it daily in their prayers, giving generously of their substance, and when we remember that we have not yet recovered from the severest financial depression the country has ever experienced, we have no occasion to go to Lamentations for our text upon this occasion, but rather should turn to a jubilant Psalm.

The rate of exchange in India has been very much in our favor, making $500 worth about as much as $700 was two or three years ago. Our great need is that our pastors and church-members shall first obtain a vivid realization of what the Gospel has done for them, and then, in loving obedience to Him whose they are and whom they serve, strive to do his will in extending the knowledge of his name.

Brethren Griffin and Stiles have rendered very efficient service among the churches during the year. We have reason to be very grateful for the restored health of Mrs. Griffin. The need for Bro. Stiles's return was so urgent that he had made up his mind to go this fall without his wife, trusting that she could follow next year, but on consulting a physician in regard to the probability of her return, the report was of such a nature as to make it seem advisable for him to remain longer in this country. The coming year he is to serve the young people as general secretary, and be paid by them.

Dr. Helen M. Phillips returned to her work early in the year after a busy furlough of eighteen months. Dr. and Mrs. Bachelor are enjoying as best they can their enforced rest at their quiet New Hampton, N. H., home. Let us remember them with letters as well as prayers.

We have those who would gladly respond to the demand for more workers in our foreign field, but your secretary has been obliged to tell them that no one can be sent, until it can be done without running in debt. A little additional money from the many would pay all bills and send new recruits with cheer and inspiration to the few toilers over there. But we must not send others until we can better support the work of those already there.

The newer missionaries are getting well into the work and proving themselves a valuable reinforcement. The Christian High School at Balasore is doing good work under the Rev. G. H. Hamlen, and is destined to be a strong factor in our work. Bro. Miner has been in charge of the Bible School, awaiting the appointment of a permanent principal. His probable return to America this fall will leave the office vacant. The long needed building for this school is being erected with funds especially provided for that purpose. Bro. Hallam has been obliged to make a long stay at Darjeeling, in the Himalayas, for his health. It was thought a few months ago that he would have to come home, but he has so far recovered that he is, in that cool retreat, able to render efficient aid to the missionaries by his writings and translations. The other missionaries have been fairly well and have been happy in their

arly in the year Mr. and Mrs. Wyman were transferred napore to the Central Stations, post-office Mohammed- Dr. Helen M. Phillips on her return was stationed with ans.

mand for repairs on mission property has been large, and rce of regret that we have not been able to furnish the r that purpose that economy required. Our missionaries been delinquent in urging upon the native churches the e of self-support and of assuming responsibility for the ng of their own people. We should encourage more and placing of the work in the hands of native agencies. urge missionary societies are agreed upon this policy as ative Christianity and for the most speedy triumph of the It is worthy of notice that during Bro. Hallam's enforced e hills the work at Contai is well cared for by Baikuntha :er, an intelligent native pastor.

of our schools are receiving government aid, and gradu- overnment has assumed control of these schools, so that in :s we are helping to pay Hindu teachers for teaching ildren, and our missionaries are not allowed a voice in l be taught. There seems to be no question that the time to follow the lead of larger societies in insisting upon the schools which we help to support, and to hire none but teachers, even if the government aid is withdrawn. We ter have fewer schools and have them taught by Chris- :r the direct control of our missionaries than to spend our staining heathen schools under the control of the govern-

uld do injustice to ourselves did we not at this our denom- gathering pay loving tribute to the life, work, and memory loved Dr. Phillips. In season and out of season he gave his "dear India." May we emulate his Christian, cheer- his abounding charity, and his intense zeal in the work of :r.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

Perhaps we have no reason to complain that our home missionary work is being done almost entirely by the state and Yearly Meeting organizations. As many of these keep and use all their contributions, the general treasury receives but a mere pittance with which to meet the heartrending appeals that come from the points not reached by local agencies. The amount of contributions available for appropriations by the Board the last year was only $1600. This was increased by bequests $1150, interest $515, and balance from the year before $1191, making $4450 to use. There was used for appropriations and other necessary expenses $5050, of which $600 was hired. The difference in balances will leave $1791 less to use the present year, so that unless the contributions are increased, and supposing the bequests to be the same, the Board will have to use this year only $2659. The arrangement made by the General Conference several years since, whereby each state or Yearly Meeting was to retain two-thirds of all its money raised for home mission work and take care of its own interests without help from the general treasury, has been so broken up that it no longer forms a basis for the division of funds. It becomes imperative that some new arrangements be made, or the general treasury will have less and less money to use. It will not be practicable for the states or Yearly Meetings to turn over a per cent of what they raise for their own work. Is there a better way than for each to raise a specified sum for the general treasury? The amount raised on the special day in March could count as so much of the sum to be paid over. Let this specified amount in each case be determined mutually by the local body and the Conference Board. The small amount of money paid out last year has sustained and carried forward some very important interests. Lincoln, Neb., has made a heroic effort to pay its debt and has it all pledged. The Cleveland mission is soon to be self-supporting. A man has been sustained at Harrisburg, Pa., who could not have remained without aid. Five hundred dollars completed payment on the fine church in Fairport, N. Y. The Nebraska and Northern

Kansas Yearly Meetings have received a little in their time of distress. The work at Harper's Ferry has received much needed assistance, and $500 has gone into the Winnebago City church.

Our self preservation and growth, our usefulness in advancing the Kingdom, require that we furnish more money and more men for the enlargement of our home missionary work. It seems desirable that we continue to solicit contributions and bequests for the church extension fund. It is the policy to loan from this fund, especially for church buildings, for a period of three years or less, without interest, taking security for the same.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Our lack of ministers qualified to fill our best pulpits, and to build up important churches and centers of population, emphasizes emphatically the importance of giving much more attention to the magnifying of the office of the ministry, to the seeking out of those whom the Lord calls, but does not force into his service, and encourage them to prepare themselves thoroughly for this most exalted of all vocations, and to furnish more generously the money to aid them in such preparation. Parents are too often to blame for giving their children the idea that of all callings that of the Christian ministry is to be shunned.

How many parents are, as formerly, consecrating their little children to this holy profession and offering the daily prayer that they may be thus honored of God? That there are cheap men in the ministry but emphasizes the importance of having more good ones.

There is no calling that offers so much to our brightest and most talented boys. It is not forgotten that good and worthy ministers are often so very shabbily treated by their parishioners that the young are led to decide not to subject themselves to such indignities. Ministers should not have a monopoly of the great privilege of self-abnegation and sacrifice. But taking all things as they are there is no calling more exalted, no service more Christlike, no reward more to be coveted than that of the true, humble minister of Jesus Christ.

We need to make a business of securing more laborers for th whitened fields. They who are called should have our sympathy encouragement, and support. The financial receipts of this de partment should be increased so that more substantial aid can b given to those who are qualifying themselves for this work. Th note for $5000 to the Lyndon Institute should be cared for, so tha there may be no longer the drain of $300 annually from our ver limited resources to meet the interest. Our theological schools ar doing well. We should help them to do far better. They nee more students and more money, and it is our business to furnis both. The Cobb Divinity School has been enabled to take a lon stride forward by the gift of a new building for its especial use May some friend of Hillsdale be moved to erect a similar monu ment for the use of its theological department.

In our various institutions there are reported 175 who are study ing for the ministry, though some of those are taking the Biblica training course. One hundred and forty-seven conversions ar reported for the last year.

So far as we are working through the General Conference an its Board we now have ideal machinery for doing our benevolen work. The individual should make himself felt in his church The churches should be well represented in the Quarterly Meetin to report what they have done, and plan for the future. The Quar terly Meetings should be instrumental in converging and intensify ing all lines of Christian work in the Yearly Meeting. The repre sentatives of the Yearly Meetings should assemble in General Con ference, filled with enthusiasm for the furtherance of the Gospel a home and abroad. Plans prayerfully and wisely made here for se curing more consecrated men and money should and will enlist th hearty support of every loyal Free Baptist. As all rills run to th ocean, and the ocean in turn feeds the rills, so may the personal con secration of individual members find a culmination in our triennia gathering, and thence may there radiate inspiration and enthusiasm to the humblest of our members at home.

ARTHUR GIVEN, *Corresponding Secretary.*

ıtion the report of the corresponding secretary
ɔnference Board was accepted as read.
I. M. Ford, the field secretary, then presented
t as follows:

ıe first day of last December I entered upon the duties
:retary, having accepted the responsible duties of the
ıt waiting even to make detailed preparation such as
ıave been very glad to make, and desirous of entering
ɡgressive campaign at once, I started west, having made
appointments with the Yearly Meeting officers of Wis-
innesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois,
ıois, and south Illinois. I took with me the apportion-
:h the General Conference Board had made out, and the
nethods of our new General Conference, and presented
:o these Yearly Meeting boards, with a view to general
and indorsement and affiliation with the General Con-
Much interest was awakened, there seemed everywhere
ırty desire to unite upon our present policy. The appor-
nd plans were in every case approved and adopted. In
trip two meetings usually were held, one in which Gen-
rence matters were considered, and the other state work.
covered 33 days, and I met the officers of nine Yearly
nd traveled 2633 miles.

ı I spent in Ohio, visiting Green Camp and dedicating a
'isited Springfield in company with Ohio state agent in
ts of our church there. Attended Cleveland Quarterly
ıd the colored Free Baptist church at Painesville in com-
Bro. Patch. This is one of the interests which the
ısionary Society had been helping. Later the needs of
ere presented to the executive committee, which met in
ł $100 was secured to help complete the church. The
ɔple have made a great beginning.

I started for St. Louis, Mo., having been advised by the
nd treasurer to visit our St. Louis colored church. Bro.
ıet me there, and we found a large debt upon the church,

and the brethren trying to pay through loan associations; and by delinquencies and fines, accumulating interest, and bad management, they had made no headway for four years. The members had become disheartened, distrustful of those who had handled the funds, and had ceased to pay. The loan association threatened to foreclose. A large amount was due for taxes, which Bro. Ricks had paid out of his own pocket. We could not tell by the clerk's records who the trustees were, and some claimed one thing and some another. There had been an utter lack of business methods in the church. I put the matter before the executive committee in March, and the case seemed too hopeless to do anything with. The matter was referred to the finance committee and myself.

March 2 I started east. Spent Sunday in Buffalo, and presented our cause in Hudson Street church, and spoke in the evening at our mission church, and after executive committee meeting at Boston, visited two of our churches in Lowell and the churches at Melrose Highlands, Somerville, and Cambridgeport. Was with Bro. Lord two Sabbaths, presented our cause, took collection of forty dollars, visited our New York interest in company with Bro. Lord, and March 25 proceeded to Harper's Ferry mission field, and in company with Bro. Porter went over the field visiting our representative churches, preaching and encouraging our brethren, and taking collections to pay off a church debt upon the Luray church. I arrived home April 4, being gone over a month and traveling 1900 miles.

May 3 I visited Fairport, and spent the Sabbath with Bro. Raymond, proceeded to the Massachusetts Association, Rhode Island Association, and New Hampshire Yearly Meeting, which I attended, and filled up the interim by visiting representative churches and Quarterly Meetings, completing a journey of 2580 miles, and speaking twenty-six times for the General Conference. Absent six weeks. Five days were spent at home, and proceeding west June 20, visited Minnesota and Wisconsin Yearly Meetings. Arrived home July 2, and entered upon a month's vacation, which was spent in catching up with my correspondence, preaching Sundays, holding several funeral services, writing and learning two addresses.

arted the third and last time for the east, visiting
bly, giving an address at Central Association, One-
n Park three times, Vermont Yearly Meeting and
ation, visited Bangor and Hardwick churches, at-
inisters' association of Cobb Divinity School, arrived
veling 3191 miles and speaking fifteen times.

ı summary, I have traveled to the west twice, and
ıes, in all 13,589 miles. Eastward beyond Buffalo
full rates except once, when per goodness of Bro.
ured half rates for 200 miles. Westward I always
f rates except about 600 miles, which Bro. Ward of
tist secured to me free of cost to the Board. Also
k via B. & O. I secured half rates through to Hills-
as my correspondence is concerned, it has not been
ng to the fact that, constantly traveling, I do not
: to work up or carry on the correspondence really
ıy business. I regret that I have not had more time
riting. Five hundred letters would cover the entire
e since Dec. 1, 1894.

briefly that two or three things have emphasized
my mind as I have gone out to meet our representa-
n conventions and Yearly Meetings.

:o me that it was necessary to awaken a just and
pride in our own denomination and in its history.
ı that if our people knew the heroic history of our
, and what the fathers stood for and endured, this
ɔreciation would be awakened. This heroic side I
therefore, everywhere to relate.

hat that "flimsy sham of mere numbers" should have
ɛnt, and to show that size was nothing, but character
dwelt at considerable length on this feature of our

lso our people needed to know they had a mission
; certainly as other good orthodox denominations, and
ion was as significant, amounted to as much, and was
ıy in the world. I tried to make that plain.

Then to explain the new plans, especially the apportionm
and above all else to urge affiliation and co-operation among
selves as paramount to everything else in order to do the wil
God best, and to urge a hearty consecration of all to God's ser
—these are the lines I felt it most important to lead out upon.

And I can only leave it for others to say whether thus far
work of field secretary has been of any help to the cause. Fin
I leave the whole work to God, hoping I may not have lab
wholly in vain.

Everywhere I have been treated with the utmost courtesy
kindness from my brethren, and their sympathy and interest in
work has greatly aided. All of which I submit.

H. M. FORD, *Field Secretar*

On motion the above report was accepted as read.

The treasurer of the Conference Board, Rev. Given, D. D., then presented a printed report, wh on motion, was tabled until Friday morning.

The treasurer of the General Conference tax t reported as follows:

Received in three years		$81
Cash on hand Aug. 31, 1895		10
Still due from Yearly Meetings and Associations:		
Holland Purchase Y. M.	$6.99	
Central New York Y. M.	32.08	
Central Ohio Y. M.	10.40	
Ohio Y. M.	9.74	
Ohio and Kentucky Y. M.	19.50	
West Virginia Y. M.	4.88	
Indiana Association	21.80	
Michigan Association	47.52	
So. Illinois Y. M.	31.40	
Central Illinois Y. M.	55.92	
Nebraska Y. M.	7.32	

No. Nebraska Y. M.	$3.18
So. Kansas Y. M.	4.66
Virginia and West Virginia Association	16.92
Kentucky Y. M.	16.94
Louisiana Y. M.	15.70
Ontario Association	3.34
S. W. Missouri Y. M.	9.56
S. E. Missouri Y. M.	12.50
N. W. Missouri Y. M.	2.54
Pleasant Hill Y. M.	13.32
So. Carolina Y. M.	11.58
Mississippi Y. M.	30.40
John Wheelock Y. M.	11.14
No. Texas Y. M.	2.54
Prosperity Association	4.10
Total	$405.97

A. GIVEN, *Treasurer.*

On motion of Burgess of Minnesota, it was voted that when Conference adjourns it be to meet at 7.30 this evening in the new Free Baptist church in this city. After prayer by Rev. E. O. Dickinson of Wisconsin the Conference adjourned. N. S. PURINTON, *Clerk.*

WINNEBAGO CITY, Oct. 2, 1895.

The Conference met in the new Free Baptist church in Winnebago, according to adjournment, at half-past seven o'clock, Pres. Mosher in the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. M. Summerbell, D. D., of Maine.

The president announced a committee on seating delegates, consisting of Davis of Maine, Burgess of Minnesota, and Gilkey of New Hampshire.

The evening was devoted to home missions, with addresses by Rev. E. B. Stiles of Midnapore, India, on "The Mission of our Young People," and by Rev. H. M. Ford, field secretary, on "The Field."

On motion of Avery of New Hampshire, it was voted that when we adjourn it be to meet Thursday morning in this place at 9 o'clock.

On motion of Davis of Maine it was voted to adopt the program as presented by the program committee, subject to such changes as may be necessary.

After prayer by Rev. Dr. Given, Conference adjourned to Thursday morning at 9 o'clock.

N. S. PURINTON, *Clerk.*

WINNEBAGO CITY, Oct. 3, 1895.

The Conference met as per adjournment at nine o'clock A. M., Pres. Mosher presiding. Prayer was offered by Rev. N. W. Bixby of Iowa.

The records of Wednesday afternoon and evening were read and approved.

The committee on Credentials submitted a report which was adopted as the official roll of the Conference. See list on pages 1 and 2 of these minutes.

Ward of Minnesota moved to invite Rev. Z. F. Griffin of Balasore, India, to take a seat in Conference, with all privileges except voting. Ball of New York moved to amend by striking out the words "except voting." The amendment was discussed by Lowden of Massachusetts, Porter of West Virginia, Hayes of Maine, Ward of Minnesota, Webb and Summerbell of Maine. The motion

to amend was lost, and the original motion prevailed, giving Griffin a seat with all privileges except the right to vote.

On motion, a similar privilege was extended to Rev. E. B. Stiles of Midnapore, India.

Perkins of New Hampshire called from the table the motion relating to the constitution of a committee on union with other bodies. On motion, the matter was referred to the committee on the Denomination.

The committee on seating delegates reported with a roll of members and a diagram of the church. Their report was adopted and the assignment of seats to the members of Conference made.

The president at this time announced the standing committees, as given on page 4 of the printed minutes.

On motion of Burgess of Minnesota, it was voted that when Conference adjourns it be to meet at 3 o'clock P. M., in order to permit the members of the body to accept the invitation of the officials of the Faribault county fair to attend their exhibition now in progress in this city.

On motion, voted that the chair appoint a committee of five, to take into consideration the method to be applied in the election of the Conference Board. The chair appointed as such committee Webb of Maine, Ford of Michigan, Ward of Minnesota, Gordon of Illinois, and Raymond of New York.

On motion of Ward of Minnesota it was voted that all new business must be introduced in writing before the close of the session Friday morning.

Deering of Maine offered the following notice:

I propose the following amendments to Article 4 of the constitution:

In the third line amend by inserting the word "president" after the word "whose."

In the fifth line amend by inserting the word "resident" after the word "thousand."

Also by adding to said article the words, "said membership to be taken from the last *Register*," so that the said Article 4 as amended shall read as follows:

"Article 4. Each Yearly Meeting or Association belonging to this Conference shall be entitled to representation by one delegate, and every Yearly Meeting or Association whose resident church communicants amount to one thousand five hundred, to two delegates, and one delegate for each additional thousand resident church-members, or major part thereof, said membership to be taken from the last issue of the *Free Baptist Register and Year Book*."

And I request that the clerk give the legal notice of said amendments, so that they may be legally acted upon at the next session of the Conference, as is provided in Article 12 of the constitution.

(Signed.) RUFUS DEERING.

Ward of Minnesota introduced a resolution relating to the *Free Baptist*, which on motion was referred to the committee on Publications.

Ward also introduced resolutions relating to the salaries of the treasurer of the Conference Board and of the field secretary. On motion the resolutions were referred to the Conference Board with power.

The chair appointed a committee to revise and report the letters from the Yearly Meetings and Associations, as follows: Lowden of Massachusetts, Dickinson of Wisconsin, and Miss Moody of Michigan.

Davis of Maine presented a resolution of the Maine Association requesting Conference to publish a history of the denomination for use in the school and home, which was referred to the committee on Publications.

Davis of Maine also presented a proposition from the Maine Ministers' Conference, asking for the fixing of minimum qualifications to be required of candidates for the ministry, which was referred to the committee on the Ministry.

Porter of West Virginia introduced a resolution respecting the *Morning Star*, which was referred to the committee on Publications.

Durkee of New York introduced a resolution respecting the Correspondence School, which was referred to the committee on Education.

On motion of Lord of New York it was voted the time of morning adjournment be fixed not later than 11.45.

On motion of Towner of Michigan it was voted that a committee on Necrology be appointed by the chair. The committee as appointed consisted of Erskine of New Hampshire, Batson of Minnesota, Towner of Michigan, Space of New York, and Mrs. Metcalf of Rhode Island. (This resolution was expunged later.)

After prayer by Rev. Dr. Hayes of Maine the Conference adjourned to meet at three o'clock this afternoon.

N. S. PURINTON, *Clerk*.

WINNEBAGO CITY, Oct. 3, 1895.

The Conference assembled at three o'clock, as per adjournment, Pres. Mosher in the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. W. J. Twort of Massachusetts.

The roll was called, and a quorum found to be present. The minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

Webb of Maine moved the suspension of the regular order, to give opportunity for the publisher of the Morning Star Publishing House to present his report.

Mr. A. L. Freeman, publisher, then presented the following:

The action of the 20th General Conference requires that "a ful and complete report of the financial condition of the Printing Establishment shall be made at each session, for information only."

In accordance with this requirement and the instructions of the Board of Corporators, the publisher and treasurer submits the following statement:

Cash received and paid out for the three years ending June 30, 1895:

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand July 1, 1892		$752.16
July 1, 1892, to July 1, 1893	$42,017.27	
July 1, 1893, to July 1, 1894	32,890.41	
July 1, 1894, to July 1, 1895	32,664.08	
		107,571.76
Total		$108,323.92

EXPENDITURES.

July 1, 1892, to July 1, 1893	$42,711.22	
July 1, 1893, to July 1, 1894	31,676.36	
July 1, 1894, to July 1, 1895	32,422.18	
		$106,809.76
Amount on hand July 1, 1895		1,514.16
Total		$108,323.92

SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT.

Amount of Business.		*Cost.*
Received from *Star* subscribers .	$34,062.28	$37,281.45
From *Star* advertisements .	7,144.52	
Quarterlies and *Lesson Leaves* sold .	28,863.35	17,175.29
Our Daysprings sold . . .	5,518.07	5,548.27
The Myrtles sold	9,664.86	8,276,81
Our Myrtle Buds sold . . .	2,748.85	2,825.91
Books sold	6,974.97	6,601.06
Job printing	10,692.49	9,613.22
Total	$105,669.39	$87,322.01
Total general expenses, July, 1892, to July, 1895,		$17,178.75

Assets and liabilities as shown by the inventory taken June 30, 1895:

ASSETS.

Real estate	$19,685.00	
Engine and press room . . .	7,468.15	
Stereotype room	153.00	
Mailing room	630.00	
Composing room	7,653.32	
Furnishings	1,305.15	
Investments	5,735.18	
Proceeds of investments . . .	1,786.30	
Stock, paper, etc.	1,532.76	
Books	3,355.95	
Morning Star dues . . .	8,189.08	
Office supplies	242.76	
Libraries	2,268.95	
Illustrations	2,000.90	
Miscellaneous	8,602.85	
		$70,609.35

LIABILITIES.

Advance *Myrtle* orders unfilled		$747.94	
Advance *Buds* orders unfilled		199.17	
Advance *Quarterly* orders unfilled		829.20	
Sundry bills unpaid not regularly charged:			
Gas	$2.00		
Water	9.80		
Books	3.49		
Power	40.34		
		55.63	
Bills payable:			
Note to Benevolent Fund		2,500.00	
Purchase ledger:			
Due sundry parties		1,603.21	
Suspense account		1.20	
Star Gift Fund		13.88	
Contributors unpaid;			
Star	$0.42		
Myrtle	1.00		
		1.42	
Annuity Fund		10,000.00	
			15,96
Net assets			$54,64
The real assets consist of the above		$54,647.70	
And the Annuity Fund		10,000.00	
			$64,64
Total in 1892			66,28
Shrinkage			$1,63

This shrinkage is less than one-quarter of that reported at General Conference, and is due almost entirely to the loss on first year of the three here reported. The record for each ye as follows:

Year ending June 30, 1893, shrinkage	$4,93
Year ending June 30, 1894, shrinkage	5
Year ending June 30, 1895, gain	35

The return to prosperity is not as rapid as we could wish, but it is sure, and there is encouragement in the fact that expenses are now being covered.

There are still some losses to be anticipated on our investments, and some scaling to be done on our stock of books, but once past these matters we may reasonably expect, by careful business management and loyal co-operation on the part of Free Baptists in the field, to at least meet expenses.

CIRCULATION OF PERIODICALS.

June 30, 1895.

The Morning Star	7,617
The Myrtle (fortnightly)	2,514
The Myrtle (weekly)	5,630
Our Myrtle Buds	3,905
Senior Quarterlies	30,000
Junior Quarterlies	15,000
Primary Quarterlies	12,000
Senior and *Junior Lesson Leaves*	4,500
Primary Lesson Leaves	2,500

The subscription list of *The Morning Star* shows a slight increase since the last report. This gain may be regarded as gratifying in view of the hard times, making it unusually difficult for religious papers generally to even hold their own in the matter of circulation. A larger list of subscribers would make possible desired improvements, and could be easily secured were all our pastors and churches alive to the need among our people of denominational literature. At the annual meeting of the Board of Corporators in July last it was decided to change the form of the *Star* to sixteen pages. This change is made to meet a demand, especially among our younger readers, to whom we must look for future patronage, and to keep pace with the other religious papers of the country, nearly all of which are now issued in this form.

It is believed that this improvement will make the paper more acceptable to its patrons and facilitate the work of securing new subscribers, besides adding materially to its value as an advertising medium. A change also in the method of handling our advertising has been introduced, by which more satisfactory results are anticipated in this department of our business.

On account of continued losses and an unpromising outlook, the publication of our young people's paper, *Our Dayspring*, was discontinued on Jan. 1 of the present year, and the attention of our young people was invited to the *Star* with encouraging results.

The question is now being considered as to what can be done to improve our Sunday-school papers, which stand substantially the same as at last report. It is thought that the *Myrtle* may be graded up to occupy the place formerly occupied by the *Little Star*.

Our lesson helps continue to do a gratifying business, though some of our schools do not use them. Heretofore the junior *Quarterly* has been graded for scholars from twelve to fifteen years of age; hereafter it will be changed in its make-up and graded for scholars from seven years and upward.

The *Register and Year Book* has a sale of a little more than three thousand copies each year. To save expense and facilitate the work of publishing, the editing of the *Year Book* is done by the publisher, instead of having it done outside of the office as heretofore. It would aid much and enable us to issue the book at an earlier date, if our church and Quarterly Meeting clerks could be more prompt in making their reports.

The "Treatise" and the "Doctrinal Views" have a steady sale.

Of books published by the House we have on hand and for sale the following:

Dunn-Butler Theology	440	copies
Life of Geo. T. Day	270	"
"The Issues" by O. E. Baker	289	"
Centennial Record	225	"
Ball's "Christian Baptism"	170	"
Sermons by Benjamin Randall	139	"
Life of Lavina Crawford	170	"

Minutes of General Conf.,			1827-1856	.	.	.	70	"
"	"	"	1859–1886	.	.	.	445	"
"	"	"	1886 (pamph.)		.	.	660	"
"	"	"	1889	"	.	.	754	"

The House is in need of the money tied up in these publications, and your patronage is solicited.

The publication of the "Star Pamphlets," which for a time had been suspended, will now be resumed. Two numbers of the series, "Eleven Talks to Young Men" and "Eleven Talks to Young Women," had become exhausted, and, as there have been calls for them, will be reprinted. Of "Star Pamphlets" we have in stock:

"The Education Society and Its Work."
"The Disciple's Love."
"What the Bible Teaches."
"Sketch of Rev. A. H. Morrell."

In the early part of this year the House entered into an arrangement with Rev. Martyn Summerbell, D. D., for the publication of his "Special Services for Ministers." The work was brought out in two editions, one of which is revised and especially adapted for the use of Free Baptist ministers. This attractive little hand-book is being well received, and we advise all Free Baptist pastors to secure a copy.

Referring to the resolution passed at the last General Conference, advising the publication of tracts or leaflets in cheap form, it may be said that it is the fixed policy of the House to supply this kind of literature from time to time, whenever the demand seems sufficient to warrant the necessary expense. The results of our efforts in this direction have not always been encouraging. Of the various publications of this class for which there have been calls, and which have been properly advertised, the greater part remains on our shelves. However, as fast as our finances will permit, we propose doing more of it, trusting that we may be favored with the hearty co-operation of our brethren and sisters in the field.

A. L. FREEMAN, *Publisher and Treasurer.*

Boston, Sept. 30, 1895.

Farnum of Rhode Island moved that the report o the publisher of the Morning Star Publishing House b accepted, and it was so voted.

The time having arrived to hear the report of Corre sponding Messengers appointed to visit other bodies none being present, opportunity was given to hear Mes sengers from other bodies. Rev. F. A. Cone of Winne bago, from the Methodist Episcopal Conference of Minne sota, was introduced, and given a fraternal greeting. H presented an account of the work in the field of hi people.

The committee on Requests submitted a report recom mending the admission of the Eastern Pennsylvani Free Baptist Association to membership in this Genera Conference, and that Rev. W. F. Cranston of Harris burg be accepted as their delegate, and the report o motion was adopted, and the president announced tha the Eastern Pennsylvania Free Baptist Association wa in membership in the Conference.

The same committee reported recommending th admission of the Central Nebraska Yearly Meeting which on motion was referred back to the committee t consider whether it were not expedient to advise th consolidation of this Yearly Meeting with one of th other Nebraska Yearly Meetings.

Dr. Ward, editor of the *Free Baptist*, submitted a report respecting the financial standing of that paper, which on motion was referred to the committee on Publications.

The committee on Nomination and Election of Conference Board submitted a report as follows:

1. We recommend that nominations for the Conference Board be made from the floor, and that no speeches be allowed in offering nominations.

2. That the names of all persons nominated be printed in suitable form and in suitable number for the use of the members as ballots, space being left for the insertion of additional names, said names to be printed in alphabetical order.

3. That, when the ballot is taken, it be for the twenty-one members of the board on one ballot, and that the names of all for whom the voter does not wish to vote be erased, names not on the list to be added if the voter so desires.

4. That if a member votes for more than twenty-one members of the board, or for less than seven women, as required by the constitution, said ballot shall be regarded as fatally defective.

L. M. WEBB, *for the Committee.*

On motion, the report was unanimously adopted, and the method of voting recommended accepted.

Nominations being then in order, the names of fifty-five persons were presented as candidates for positions on the Conference Board.

On motion of Webb of Maine the hour of ten on Friday morning was fixed as the time for the election of the Conference Board.

Lord of New York moved that when Conference adjourns it be to meet at eight o'clock this evening. After prayer by Rev. J. H. Durkee of New York, Conference adjourned to the time appointed.

N. S. PURINTON, *Clerk.*

WINNEBAGO CITY, MINN., Oct. 3, 1895.

The Conference met at eight o'clock according t adjournment, Pres. Mosher in the chair. Prayer w offered by Rev. Dr. Lord of New York.

Rev. Dr. Summerbell of Maine then delivered a address on "The Denominational College." Mrs. E H. Andrews, second vice-president, was then called the chair, and the second address of the evening w delivered by Pres. G. F. Mosher, LL. D., of Hillsda College, on "The Education for the Age."

On motion of Newell of New York it was voted th when we adjourn it be to meet in this place at ni o'clock Friday morning. After prayer by Rev. S. Smith of Nebraska the Conference adjourned to Frid morning at nine. N. S. PURINTON, *Clerk.*

WINNEBAGO CITY, MINN., Oct. 4, 1895

The Conference met as per adjournment at ni o'clock, Pres. Mosher in the chair. Prayer was offer by Rev. E. A. Higbee of Minnesota.

The roll was called and a quorum was found to l present. . The records of Thursday afternoon and eve ing were read and approved.

On motion of Ward of Minnesota it was voted to alt the program of Sunday so as to have the dedication se vice of the church at 2.30 P. M. and the communi service at 10.30 A. M.

On motion it was voted to excuse Bro's Ricks a Woods of Illinois from further attendance this morning

On motion it was voted to take from the table the report of the Conference treasurer, which was then unanimously accepted. The report is as follows:

FOREIGN MISSIONS DEPARTMENT.

RECEIPTS.

Contributions for general fund		$9,962.59	
" Balasore school fund		1,525.88	
" Balasore school interest		203.22	
" Bible school interest		21.00	
" Bible school hall		500.00	
" outfit and passage		136.53	
" Bible and tract cause		2.00	
" Contai		21.00	
" Woman's Missionary Society		1.00	
" George Ager		156.70	
" C. I. Boyer and her work, from N. B.		961.00	
" T. W. Burkholder		1.50	
" M. J. Coldren		783.42	
" L. E. Gaunce and her work, from N. B.		513.72	
" Z. F. Griffin		22.12	
" E. C. B. Hallam		14.00	
" G. H. Hamlen		15.00	
" M. C. Miner		13.61	
" H. M. Phillips		204.30	
" E. B. Stiles		686.31	
" E. C. Wile, from N. S.		400.00	
" H. E. Wyman		105.91	
" schools and miscellaneous		1,473.02	
Total contributions			$17,723.83
quests for general fund			4,988.49
terest permanent fund		$610.24	
" Bible school fund		449.15	
" Balasore school fund		601.52	
" Henry Newton fund		18.75	
Total interest			1,679.66
Total receipts			$24,391.98

Withdrawn from permanent fund by wish of donor	$3,000.00
Withdrawn from investment Bible school hall funds	171.95
Bills payable	3,900.00
Aggregate	$31,463.93

DISBURSEMENTS.

Cash overdrawn Sept. 1, 1894		$8,089.96
Missionaries' services and allowances	$10,588.29	
Outfit and passage	312.60	
Schools and miscellaneous	2,921.79	
Contai	650.00	
Bible school interest	300.00	
Balasore school interest	455.36	
Bible and tract cause	25.00	
Bible school hall	500.00	
Annuities	434.00	
		16,187.04
Balasore school fund invested		1,525.88
Woman's Missionary Society		29.15
Bills payable		3,000.00
Interest		31.50
Bequest refunded		10.00
Expense account as follows:		
Conference board	$199.70	
Executive committee	51.90	
Committee on transfer	9.50	
Foreign mission committee	9.43	
Corresponding secretary, salary	100.00	
Corresponding secretary, expenses	3.87	
Safe deposit box	14.00	
Blank books	4.05	
Printing	99.97	
Postage and stationery	110.30	
Clerical help	333.20	
Salary of field secretary	405.00	
Expenses of field secretary	103.34	
Salary of treasurer	1,050.00	
Expenses of treasurer	59.65	
		2,553.9
Cash on hand Aug. 31, 1895		36.49
Aggregate		$31,463.93

INVESTED FUNDS.

Permanent Fund.

Notes	$645.00	
Stocks and bonds	5,535.00	
Real estate	2,200.00	
Mortgages and trust deeds	6,172.00	
Taylor Little estate	800.00	
Cash on hand	142.56	
Total permanent fund		$15,494.56

Bible School Fund.

Notes	$1,887.00	
Stocks and bonds	6,900.00	
Real estate	1,200.00	
Mortgages and trust deeds	7,345.00	
Cash on hand	476.67	
Total Bible school fund		17,808.67

Balasore School Fund.

Notes	$3,000.00	
Stocks and bonds	10,200.00	
Mortgages and trust deeds	4,325.00	
Cash on hand	1,492.49	
Total Balasore school fund		19,017.49

Henry Newton Fund.

Mortgage	300.00
Total invested funds	$52,620.72

HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT.

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand Sept. 1, 1894		$1,191.14
Contributions for general fund	$3,148.32	
" permanent fund	50.00	
" church extension	11.00	
" Harper's Ferry	598.50	
" Horton, Kan.	25.00	
" Iowa Y. M.	256.93	

Contributions for Lincoln, Neb.	$19.60	
" Long Pine, Neb.	40.00	
" Maine Association	2,900.24	
" Massachusetts Association	4.00	
" Michigan Association	632.78	
" Minnesota Y. M.	289.50	
" Nebraska Y. M.	803.33	
" Ohio Association	747.84	
" Painesville, O.	8.00	
" Rhode Island Association	733.02	
" Wisconsin Y. M.	721.97	
Total contributions		$10,9
Bequests for general fund		1,1
Interest permanent fund	$490.44	
" Henry Newton fund	24.75	
Total interest		5
Total receipts		$13,8
Bills payable		6
Aggregate		$14,4

DISBURSEMENTS.

Annuities	$137.00
Brockton, Mass.	75.00
Cleveland, O.	400.00
Charleston, Me.	10.00
Fairport, N. Y.	500.00
Harper's Ferry	1,539.50
Harrisburg, Pa.	399.65
Horton, Kan.	25.00
Iowa Y. M.	256.93
Lincoln, Neb.	358.30
Long Pine, Neb.	40.00
Maine Association	2,910.24
Massachusetts Association	161.35
Michigan Association	632.78
Minnesota Y. M.	289.50
New Hampshire Y. M.	257.53
Nebraska Y. M.	775.27
Northern Kansas Y. M.	208.65
Newport Center, Vt.	25.00
Ohio Association	747.84
Painesville, O.	100.00

Rhode Island Association	$948.93	
St. Louis, Mo.	300.00	
San Francisco, Cal.	100.00	
Somerville, Mass.	500.00	
Valley Springs, So. Dak.	75.00	
Wisconsin Y. M.	721.97	
Worcester, Mass.	100.00	
Winnebago City, Minn.	500.00	
Bequest refunded	10.00	
		$13,105.44
Permanent fund invested		50.00
Expense account as follows:		
Conference board	$71.32	
Executive committee	31.51	
Committee on transfer	8.03	
Recording secretary	6.75	
Corresponding secretary	50.00	
Safe deposit box	5.00	
Blank books	1.45	
Printing	39.90	
Postage and stationery	42.11	
Clerical help	119.00	
Salary of field secretary	405.00	
Expenses of field secretary	103.34	
Salary of treasurer	375.00	
Expenses of treasurer	15.86	
		1,274.27
Cash on hand Aug. 31, 1895		16.65
Aggregate		$14,446.36

INVESTED FUNDS.

Permanent Fund.

Note	$800.00	
Stocks and bonds	4,775.00	
Mortgages and trust deeds	4,675.00	
Cuba, Kan., on deed	400.00	
Taylor Little estate	800.00	
Savings bank	1,100.00	
Cash on hand	168.29	
Total		$12,718.29

Henry Newton Fund.

Mortgage	$300.00	
Bond	100.00	
Total		$4
Total invested funds		$13,1

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

RECEIPTS.

Contributions for general fund	$1,528.12	
" Bates College, reported	14,622.00	
" " " Fullonton fund	10.00	
" Green Mt. Seminary, reported	1,926.82	
" Parker College	30.00	
" Storer College, reported	1,494.36	
Total contributions		$19,6
Bequest for general fund		1,0
Interest permanent fund	$92.00	
" E. True fund	235.00	
" library fund	176.00	
" Henry Newton fund	21.00	
Total interest		5
Total receipts		$21,1

DISBURSEMENTS.

Cash overdrawn Sept. 1, 1894		$4
Annuity	$9.00	
Bates College, reported	14,622.00	
" general fund	1,201.25	
" E. True fund	48.75	
" Fullonton fund	10.00	
" library fund	53.75	
Hillsdale College, general fund	130.75	
" E. True fund	44.10	
Storer College, reported	1,487.36	
" E. True fund	72.20	
Parker College	37.42	
Green Mt. Seminary, reported	1,926.82	
Lyndon Institute	300.00	
		19,0

Expense account as follows:		
Conference board	$14.26	
Executive committee	6.28	
Committee on transfer	8.05	
Recording secretary	6.92	
Safe deposit box	1.00	
Blank books	.30	
Printing	15.74	
Postage and stationery	7.28	
Clerical help	23.80	
Salary of field secretary	90.00	
Expenses of field secretary	22.98	
Salary of treasurer	75.00	
Expenses of treasurer	2.71	
Total expenses		$274.32
Cash on hand Aug. 31, 1895		490.68
Aggregate		$21,135.30

INVESTED FUNDS.

Permanent Fund.

Real estate bond	$1,000.00	
Cash on hand	254.55	
Total		$1,254.55

E. True Fund.

Stocks and real estate bonds	$4,315.00	
Cash on hand	561.01	
Total		4,876.01

Library Fund.

Note	$177.00	
Mortgage	500.00	
Stock coupon certificate	300.00	
Cash on hand	1,200.00	
Total		2,177.00

Henry Newton Fund.

Real estate bond	300.00
Total invested funds	$8,607.56
Liability—note held by Lyndon Institute	$5,000.00

ARTHUR GIVEN, *Treasurer.*

I find the above account correctly cast and properly vouched.

DANIEL G. WOOD, *Auditor.*

Boston, Mass., Sept. 17, 1895.

A ballot was then taken for treasurer of Conference, and Rev. Arthur Given, D. D., of Massachusetts was unanimously elected.

Branch of Nebraska offered a resolution relating to the investment of permanent funds, which on motion was referred to the Finance committee.

The committee on Church Polity, through its chairman, Dr. Summerbell of Maine, presented the following report:

Whereas the polity of the denomination as outlined in the Treatise is in harmony with the New Testament teaching and with the genius of the American people, and also has proven itself efficient in practical experience, therefore,

Resolved, that the ministry be urged to faithfully follow it in practice, and to teach its principles from the pulpit and in their pastoral visitations.

On motion the report was unanimously adopted.

Hayes of Maine presented a resolution on the *Morning Star*, which on motion was referred to the committee on Publications.

Ward of Minnesota asked to be excused from further attendance until Monday morning, and the request was granted.

The committee on Requests then offered the following resolution:

We recommend that the Central Nebraska Yearly Meeting of Free Baptists be admitted to membership in this Conference, and that Rev. S. F. Smith be admitted to this body as their delegate.

And further, in view of the fact that several Nebraska brethren who are familiar with the field covered by this Yearly Meeting are of the opinion that it would be for the highest interests of our cause in that state if this new Yearly Meeting were to be consol-

idated with one of the other Yearly Meetings, we recommend that the brethren in Nebraska carefully consider the expediency of such consolidation.

On motion the report was adopted, the Central Nebraska Yearly Meeting was admitted, and the Rev. S. F. Smith was seated as their delegate.

Van Wormer of Kansas offered a resolution relating to blanks for church letters, which on motion was referred to the committee on Publications.

A communication was received from Rev. Thos. E. Peden of Ohio, protesting against the adoption of the new constitution and making the following demand:

SCIOTOVILLE, O., Sept. 30, 1895.

To the Free Baptist General Conference and Conference Board:

By means which we will not here discuss you are in control of the permanent funds of the Home Mission, Foreign Mission, and Education societies, and as these funds were given by Freewill Baptists to promote the cause of Christ through their own chosen denomination, and would not have been given, as we have strong reasons to believe, to any "Free Baptist" society or organization, we request you as honest men to turn said funds over to Bro. O. Eakins, treasurer, or to his successor in office, to be used as intended by the donors for the advancement of the Freewill Baptist denomination through these respective channels. We also ask you to give possession of all mission property in India, the Freewill Baptist Printing Establishment (See Art. 7 of the Constitution, found in the Treatise), and all other moneys and properties belonging to the General Conference or any of its Boards; also, so far as under your control, the property and endowments of all colleges and other schools under our denominational control. We are asking simply for what is honestly ours, and hope that litigation will not be necessary among men professing Christianity.

As the clerk failed to give notice of the meeting of the Fre will Baptist General Conference at Winnebago, Minn., as p adjournment was expected, a committee appointed by a called co ference announced at a late date that it will meet in Coalto O. Only a small delegation, enough to adjourn at least, is e pected. They will transact some necessary business, and probab adjourn until some time in next year. Boards will be appointed, those appointed last year will hold over, to attend to the denon national interests.

Respectfully submitted in behalf of the executive committ appointed at the called session of the Freewill Baptist Gene Conference. THOS. E. PEDEN, *Clerk.*

On motion of Ball of New York it was voted that t communications of Bro. Peden be referred to a Speci Committee of five, to report a suitable reply to be r turned. The chair appointed as such committee, Ball New York, Webb of Maine, Mrs. Cheney of Main Fulton and Patch of Ohio.

The Special Committee to receive and revise the l ters from the Yearly Meetings and Associations reporte and the letters were read by Rev. J. M. Lowden Massachusetts and Miss Lizzie Moody of Michigan.

The letters on the whole were of an encouragi character, and brought good news from our field general.

A request from the Southwestern Missouri Yea Meeting was read, and on motion was referred to t committee on Requests.

Certain amendments to the constitution of Gene Conference were presented by the brethren from Iow

which on motion were referred to a Special Committee consisting of Webb of Maine, Lord of New York, and Miss DeMeritte of New Hampshire.

Patch of Ohio offered a resolution asking that the respective duties of deacons and trustees be defined, and on motion the matter was referred to the committee on Church Polity.

The Conference then proceeded to the election of twenty-one persons to serve as a Conference Board. On motion of Davis of Maine it was voted that a committee of Five be appointed to receive and count ballots. The chair appointed Davis of Maine, Getchell and Avery of New Hampshire, Space of New York, and Shepard of Illinois. The chair appointed as tellers to distribute ballots, Davison of Vermont, Avery and Getchell of New Hampshire. The ballot was then taken for Conference Board, and the committee to canvass the vote was given permission to retire and perform that duty.

On motion of Burgess of Minnesota it was voted to take a recess to 2 o'clock P. M. Business was resumed at 2 P. M. after the recess. The question of devotional exercises for this session was referred by the president to Rev. F. E. Davison of Vermont.

A communication was received from the Rev. William C. Daland of Rhode Island, representative of the General Conference of Seventh Day Baptists, on "The Observance of the Seventh Day as a Bond of Christian Unity." On motion the communication was referred to the committee on Correspondence.

The committee on Home Missions submitted a p
tial report, as follows:

Whereas the arrangement entered into some years ago, wher
each Yearly Meeting or Association should have for its own
two-thirds of all money raised for home missions within their
territory, has been so broken up as to be no longer operative,

Resolved, that each Yearly Meeting and Association be reque
to raise for the treasury of the General Conference a definite
for its use in home mission work, this sum in each case to be
termined mutually by the local body and the Conference Board
its representatives. R. D. LORD, *Chairman of Com*

On motion the report was adopted.

The committee on Education presented a report
the Correspondence School, as follows:

Whereas our Correspondence School is already meeting the n
for which it was organized, and is doing efficient work,

Resolved, (1) That the report of the Correspondence Schoo
received and adopted. (2) That the following persons consti
the officers of said school for the next three years: M. Summer
D. D., Ph. D., president, professor of Ethics and Apologetics; I
Hayes, D. D., secretary and treasurer, professor of Philosophy
the Sciences; A. T. Salley, D. D., professor of Old Testament
gesis and Literature; A. W. Anthony, M. A., professor of
Testament Exegesis and Literature; J. S. Copp, D. D., profess
Homiletics and Church Polity; J. A. Howe, D. D., professor of
tematic Theology; D. B. Reed, D. B., professor of Ecclesias
History.

On motion the report was adopted, and the foregc
officers were elected accordingly.

The Rev. J. Erskine of New Hampshire, from
committee on Necrology, then gave the following rep

Your committee on Necrology presents the following re
Owing to the failure of the committee appointed at the last
eral Conference to make a report to this, your committee has fc
it very difficult to prepare a full and accurate list of deceased
isters since the last General Conference. For 1893 and '94
Registers have furnished us the information for two years; but
the past year the information had to be obtained from the deleg

and much searching of papers. From all sources avail-
uld not obtain all the information we needed. That
:t will be found in the list is to be expected. Some are
l who may have died during the last three years, but
l not come to the knowledge of your committee. Two
reported here, who were not reported three years ago.
we report 88 deaths since the last report, 11 more than
following is the list of their names, residences, and
th as far as we could learn it, and the age.

	Residence.	*Died.*	*Age.*
. . . .	Galesburg, Ill.	Aug. 8, 1891 . . .	59
n . . .	Carbondale, Ill. . . .	Aug, 19, 1892 . .	91
ill . . .	Cornish, Me.	Sept. 24, 1892 . .	53
ent . .	Saranac, Mich. . . .	Oct. 24, 1892 . .	81
rd . . .	Belfast, Me.	Nov. 25, 1892 . .	79
: . . .	Grand Rapids, Mich. .	Nov. 26, 1892 . .	70
ı . . .	Spencer, Ia.	Dec. 13, 1892 . .	56
ler . .	Chesterville, Me. . . .	Dec. 27, 1892 . .	91
ı . . .	Diamond Bluff, Wis. .	——— 1892 . .	53
s . . .	Providence, R. I. . . .	Jan. 18, 1893 . .	68
ain . .	Northfield, N. H. . .	Jan. 1, 1893 . . .	71
. . . .	Concord, N. H. . . .	Jan. 27, 1893 . .	88
ɔcker . .	Paw Paw, Ill.	Jan. 28, 1893 . .	85
n . . .	Pullman, Wash. . . .	Jan. 24, 1893 . .	87
. . . .	Strafford, Vt.	Feb. 1, 1893 . . .	85
l	Lynn, Mass.	Feb. 9, 1893 . . .	72
ɔn . . .	Newell, Ia.	Feb. 25, 1893 . .	84
rson . .	Chester X Roads, O. .	Feb. 27, 1893 . .	84
. . . .	N. Hyde Park, Vt. . .	Mar. 13, 1893 . .	82
. . . .	E. Hamlin, N. Y. . .	Mar. 18, 1893 . .	60
ɔn . . .	Okarche, I. T.	Mar. 23, 1893 . .	61
e . . .	Dallas Co., Mo. . . .	Mar. 26, 1893 . .	42
tt . . .	Rio Grande, O. . . .	Apr. 29, 1893 . .	75
ıton . .	Etna, Minn.	May 2, 1893 . . .	32
ı	Lewiston, Me.	May 4, 1893 . . .	75

J. Claflin	E. Westmorel'd, N.H.	May 6, 1893	82
I. W. Drew	Oelwein, Ia.	April, 1893	70
S. Y. Barringer	Kendalville, Ind.	June 1, 1893	78
C. Campbell	New Sharon, Me.	June 14, 1893	76
J. S. Manning	Cairo, Ill	June 25, 1893	80
F. P. Augir	Springfield, Mo.	June 30, 1893	74
O. E. Baker	Lincoln, Neb.	July 31, 1893	68
R. W. Bryant	Rock Co., Wis.	July 31, 1893	71
S. N. Jones	Monticello, Ia.	Aug. 27, 1893	70
Tobias Foss	Pelham, N. H.	Sept. 3, 1893	80
O. S. Brown	Odessa, N. Y.	Sept. 10, 1893	79
R. E. Nesbit	E. Hamlin, N. Y.	Oct. 12, 1893	39
W. K. Jackson	Hillsdale, Mich.	Oct. 14, 1893	34
H. E. Keyes	Williamsport, Pa.	Oct. 15, 1893	
Jas. Calder, D. D.	Harrisburg, Pa.	Nov. 22, 1893	69
Geo. Wheeler	Providence, R. I.	Nov. 24, 1893	76
A. F. Hutchinson	So. Portland, Me.	Dec. 1, 1893	69
F. Babcock	Lewiston, Me.	Dec. 12, 1893	71
C. P. Goodrich	Metamora, Mich.	Dec. 24, 1893	83
Nathan Jones	Campton, N. H.	Jan. 13, 1894	75
G. W. Town	Oak Center, Wis.	Jan. 19, 1894	83
W. A. Letson	Brinton, Mich.	Feb. 8, 1894	64
W. Andrews	Carmel, Me.	Feb. 10, 1894	74
A. B. Drew	Topsham, Me.	Mar. 12, 1894	70
Luther Hanson	Pulteney, N. Y.	Mar. 20, 1894	73
Geo. W. Howe	Lowell, Mass.	Mar. 21, 1894	61
Mrs. Ada Kennan	Hillsdale, Mich.	Apr. 14, 1894	55
J. D. Cook	Constantia, N. Y.	Apr. 19, 1894	41
W. H. Yeoman	Wilmot Flat, N. H.	May 1, 1894	72
H. W. Morse	Fostoria, Kan.	May 23, 1894	72
Smith Lent	Rome, Pa.	June 12, 1894	86
L. A. Lang	Lynn, Mass.	June 14, 1894	72
W. H. Waldron	Farmington, N. H.	July 6, 1894	77
W. A. Phillips	Otselic, N. Y.	July 8, 1894	56
Chas. Cook	Almeda, Mich.	Sept. 26, 1894	71
L. Given	Madison, N. H.	Oct. 8, 1894	66

. E. Flanders	Albany, Vt.	Oct. 25, 1894	87
as. Nason	Wells Branch, Me.	Nov. 30, 1894	65
). Strickland	Carbondale, Ill.	Dec. 13, 1894	55
A. D. Williams, D.D.	Kenesaw, Neb.	Dec. 31, 1894	69
L. D. Jeffers	Campton, N. H.	1894	73
B. R. Rackliff	Kilby, N. Dak.	1894	75
Caleb Greene	W. Greenwich, R. I.	1894	91
W. W. Lee	Rutland, Wis.	1894	
M. H. Abbey	Westminster, Vt.	Jan. 1, 1895	74
F. H. Bubar	Linneus, Me.	Feb. 3, 1895	56
Aaron Vilas	E. Farnham, P. Q.	Feb. 13, 1895	84
W. T. Smith	Strafford, N. H.	Mar. 3, 1895	75
Thos. Spooner	Lawrence, Mass.	Mar. 6, 1895	43
Michael Doyle	Frankenmuth, Mich.	Mar. 14, 1895	92
D. M. L. Rollin	Byron, N. Y.	Mar. 21, 1895	90
L. S. Parmelee	Reading, Mich.	Mar. 31, 1895	79
J. H. Moxom	Topeka, Kan.	April, 1895	73
Daniel Branch	————	Apr. 15, 1895	93
Chas. Hallock	Constantia, N. Y.	May, 1895	45
Ira Allen	Elsie, Mich.	May, 1895	81
J. L. Phillips, D. D.	Mussoorie, India	June 25, 1895	55
E. Barton	Poplar Bluff, Mo.	July, 1895	54
J. P. Nelson	Corinna, Me.	Aug. 16, 1895	69
J. Woodyard	Rochester, O.	Sept. 14, 1895	28
Lorenzo Baird	Brown Hill, Pa.	Sept. 5, 1895	69
L. J. Wheeler	Nemaha, Neb.	Sept. 19, 1895	64
S. M. Weeks	Milford, Mass.	Oct. 1, 1895	79

Of the 88 names we have learned the ages of 86. The average age of the 86 is 70 1-2 nearly—an average a little lower than that of the last report. The youngest, Rev. J. Woodyard of Rochester, O., was 28. The oldest, Rev. D. Branch, was 93. 54 were 70 and over; 23 were 80 and over; and 6 were 90 and over; 3 were doctors of divinity.

(Signed.) J. ERSKINE, J. I. TOWNER, J. D. BATSON, Z. A. SPACE, MRS. A. M. METCALF, *Committee on Necrology.*

The following report was submitted from the committee on the Country:

1. Believing that the influx of the vicious foreign element into our country tends to the deterioration of our morals and militates against the best interests of our land, *Resolved*, that we desire to see some practical effort on the part of our government to devise some effectual means to restrain such vicious immigration.

2. Regarding with sorrow and indignation the terrible persecution of the Armenians at the hands of the Turks; *Resolved*, that we urge our government to use its influence to stay such atrocities.

3. Believing that all men were born free and equal, and that sex does not disqualify anyone to express an opinion at the ballot-box; *Resolved*, that in the interest of justice, temperance, and the possible purification of political methods, we express our unqualified approval of both municipal and national enfranchisement of women.

(Signed.)
L. M. WEBB.
W. H. GETCHELL.
H. G. HILL.
E. NEWELL.
N. RICKS.

The report was discussed freely by Maynard of Michigan, Webb of Maine, Hayes of Maine, Miss DeMeritte of New Hampshire, Mrs. Cheney of Maine, Ricks of Illinois, Newell of New York, and Perkins of New Hampshire, and then adopted.

On motion of Erskine of New Hampshire the clerk was instructed to convey to the Secretary of State at Washington the resolution relating to the Armenian atrocities.

The following report was then offered from the committee on the Young People's Work:

1. *Resolved*, that we approve of the appointment of Rev. H. E. Wyman as the young people's missionary in India.

2. *Resolved*, that we indorse the recommendation of the United Society of A. C. F. that each society appoint an information com-

mittee whose duty it shall be to present to the society from time to time all matters of denominational interest as learned from our denominational publications.

3. *Resolved*, that we indorse the appointment of E. B. Stiles as field secretary, and pledge him our hearty support.

4. *Whereas* denominational schools most perfectly serve the interests of our young people, therefore, *Resolved*, that we loyally and most heartily support all our denominational institutions of learning.

5. We recommend to all our young people the plan of proportionate systematic giving upon the scriptural basis of at least one-tenth of their income, to be fully consecrated and faithfully and promptly administered for the glory of God and the rapid advancement of his kingdom.

That the full discharge of our denominational duties to both home and foreign fields renders it imperative that much more money be raised by us, and that we look to and believe we can depend on our Christian young people for efficient aid in promoting a more liberal standard of giving, and thereby largely increase our power for good in the world.

That the funds raised by our young people's societies shall be used in harmony with the plans of the work adopted by General Conference and Conference Board.

6. We recommend that the United Society carefully and prayerfully consider the whole field of our young people's work, and take such action as will best secure harmony and hearty co-operation in all our denominational work.

7. *Resolved*, that we heartily indorse the recommendation of the United Societies that members of local societies search for and encourage such young people of their numbers as God is calling to the ministry to consecrate themselves to the work of fitting for and obeying the call.

8. We recommend that the members of our societies arduously exercise themselves in securing a pure ballot and true manhood in the duties of citizenship.

9. Whereas the children of to-day represent future citizens, temperance men and women, missionaries and ministers: *Resolved*, that our Junior A. C. F. and C. E. societies and all our children should be taught true citizenship, purity of mind and character, the proper mission spirit, and a right estimate of the high calling of the Christian ministry.

(Signed.)

L. W. RAYMOND.
T. C. LAWRENCE.
J. I. TOWNER.
GEO. B. CUTLER.
A. E. DEXTER.
W. F. CRANSTON.

On motion the report of the committee was adopted.

The committee on Temperance submitted the following:

Realizing that intemperance and the traffic in intoxicating liquors is a constant menace to good government and the progress of the Christian church, therefore

Resolved, 1. That we will not only abstain from the beverage use of all intoxicating liquors, but to the best of our ability will help others to do the same, especially by the use of the pledge in our Sunday-schools and young people's meetings.

2. That according to our covenant obligations we will refuse all sanction to the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage.

3. That, as its sale cannot be legalized without sin, we declare ourselves unalterably opposed to any form of license for the sale of such liquors for drinking purposes.

4. That no political party which stands for license or fails to commit itself unequivocally for the prohibition of the liquor traffic should expect to receive our ballots.

5. That we most heartily disapprove the use of tobacco in any form, and pledge ourselves to use our best endeavors to keep our church-membership and all our young people free from its contamination.

6. That we hold it to be the duty of our ministers to preach against these as against other evils.

(Signed.)

LEWIS DEXTER.
H. R. FARNUM.
THERA B. TRUE.
LIZZIE MOODY.
D. A. TUCKER.

On motion the above report was adopted.

The following was reported from the committee on the New West:

In view of the rapid development of the New West and the opportunties presented to Free Baptists in the many growing towns and cities, also the great need of ministers of energy and ability, both as pastors and evangelists, and to exercise a general supervision of the work, and bring about organization and co-operation,

Therefore, be it *Resolved*, (1) that we call the attention of our ministry, especially our young men, to the splendid opportunities west of the Mississippi river in pulpits now vacant, also to the

many regions where new interests can easily be planted which would be growing in benefit and honor to our denomination, and ask them to come West.

2. That we recognize the value of evangelistic work among our Western churches, on the part of properly accredited workers, and recommend the employment of such agencies for the advancement of our work.

3. That there is a special need of state or district agency work in the West, to effect proper organization and co-operation and set forth our denominational doctrine, polity, and general plan of work. That it is the sense of this Conference that such agency should be sustained.

4. That it is desirable, in order that the best results in our Western field may be realized in church extension, evangelistic and mission work, that there be co-operation of the different parts and a close affiliation with the denomination at large.

5. That we should discourage the planting of churches in towns and districts where there is no real demand for more churches or where there are not good reasons to expect permanent returns for our money and effort.

W. P. VAN WORMER.
J. W. HAGERTY.
(Signed.) J. N. MCLAUGHLIN.
B. F. JEFFERSON.
E. N. LONG.

On motion the report was adopted.

The committee on Doctrine submitted a report approving of the Conference sermon by Dr. Hayes, and on motion it was voted to request its publication in the *Morning Star*.

The committee also presented the following:

Resolved, that the scriptural doctrine of the Christian church should be more carefully studied by our ministry and preached to our people; to wit, that the church of Jesus Christ includes all persons who have been born of God through repentance toward God and faith in Christ, and no others, and that members of the local church must in all cases first be members of the church general and then enter into fellowship by agreement to accept the rules and regulations made by vote of the local churches respect-

ively, and that the ordinances of the Gospel, baptism and the Lord's Supper, should be observed by all members of the universal church, and by no others.

G. H. BALL.
C. S. PERKINS.
G. A. GORDON.
J. H. MAYNARD.
GEO. B. CUTLER.

(Signed).

Gordon of Illinois introduced a resolution on the ordinance of baptism, which on motion was referred to the committee on Doctrine.

Maynard of Michigan offered a resolution on biblical interpretation, which was referred to the committee on Doctrine.

Schnell of New York introduced a resolution in reference to the oppression of Cuba by Spain, which was referred to the committee on the Country.

Burgess of Minnesota moved that a committee be appointed to arrange for the supply of the pulpits of Winnebago on the Sabbath. The chair appointed as such committee Burgess of Minnesota, Durkee of New York, and Davison of Vermont.

Conference then gave the floor to Mrs. Cheney, who spoke of a proposed volume of poems by Mrs. V. G. Ramsey, and took a good number of subscriptions for the same.

On motion it was voted that Conference take a recess to eight o'clock.

At eight o'clock the president called Conference to order, and prayer was offered by Rev. T. C. Lawrence of Ohio.

The committee on canvassing the vote for Conference Board reported as follows:

Your committee has received and canvassed the vote cast for members of the Conference Board. The whole number of votes cast was 88, of which 12 were defective, and accordingly thrown out, as per vote of Conference. The whole number of votes therefore is estimated as 76, of which 39 would be necessary for election. The following persons, having received the required number, should be declared elected:

Mrs. E. H. Andrews, R. I., 65; G. A. Burgess, Minn., 69; Mrs. M. A. W. Bachelder, Mich., 63; Mrs. E. B. Cheney, Maine, 68; Mrs. Ellen A. Copp, Mich., 61; Mrs. L. M. P. Durgin, Minn., 62; Rufus Deering, Maine, 39; Miss L. A. DeMeritte, N. H., 69; H. M. Ford, Mich., 74; Arthur Given, Mass., 42; R. D. Lord, N. Y., 70; Geo. F. Mosher, Mich., 72; O. D. Patch, N. H., 55; Mrs. T. B. True, Iowa; 45; L. M. Webb, Maine, 58; J. T. Ward, Minn., 47.

Other persons voted for did not receive the requisite number for election, as follows:

Mrs. S. C. G. Avery, 38; Rev. D. D. Mitchell, 38; Rev. J. M. Lowden, 36; Rev. G. H. Ball, 34; Rev. A. E. Wilson, 34; Rev. W. J. Fulton, 30; Mrs. Clara A. Ricker, 28; Rev. G. A. Gordon, 26; Rev. E. W. Porter, 25; Rev. W. P. Van Wormer, 23; H. R. Farnham, Esq., 21; Rev. Martyn Summerbell, 20: Rev. N. Ricks, 20; Rev. Chas. Perkins, 18; Rev. L. W. Raymond, 18; Rev. N. C. Brackett, 18; Rev. T. H. Stacy, 16; Mrs. A. E. Dexter, 15; Rev. Lewis Dexter, 14; Mrs. N. L. Abbey, 14; Rev. E. S. Branch, 12; Mrs. B. B. Rose, 11; Rev. J. M. Davis, 11; Rev. C. A. Bickford, 10; Rev. D. A. Tucker, 10; Rev. C. H. True, 9; Rev. J. H. Durkee, 9; Rev. J. S. Dinsmore, 9; Mrs. A. C. McKoon, 7; Rev. D. B. Martin, 7; Rev. D. L. Case, 6; Rev. J. M. Kayser, 5; Rev. J. H. Maynard, 5; Rev. J. B. Gidney, 5; Rev. A. D. Sandborn, 4; Rev. A. M. Stewart, 4; Mrs. G. C. Waterman, 4; Rev. E. O. Dickinson, 4; E. E. Davis, 3; Mrs. M. A. Hoose, 3; Rev. Lewis

Malvern, 2; Rev. S. F. Smith, 2; Rev. Z. F. Griffin, 2; Hattie Gordon, 2; Rev. T. C. Lawrence, 1; Mrs. Mary A. Davis, 1; Rev. Z. A. Space, 1; Rev. J. W. Phelps, 1.

Respectfully submitted.

(Signed.) E. E. DAVIS, Z. A. SPACE, M. A. SHEPARD, N. A. AVERY, W. H. GETCHELL, } *Canvassers.*

On motion the above was accepted as a partial report of the committee, and the president declared the first sixteen persons named in the report duly elected as members of the Conference Board.

On motion the election of the remaining members of the Conference Board was made the special order for Saturday morning at nine o'clock. Burgess of Minnesota moved that when Conference adjourns it be to meet on Saturday morning at nine o'clock.

Addresses were then given by Mrs. Mary A. Davis of Rhode Island on "The World and the Work"; by Rev. Dr. Given of Massachusetts on "Our Work in the World," and by Miss L. A. DeMeritte of New Hampshire on "The Future of Our Work." After prayer by Rev. F. E. Davison of Vermont, Conference adjourned to Saturday morning at nine o'clock.

N. S. PURINTON, *Clerk.*

WINNEBAGO CITY, MINN., Oct 5, 1895.

Conference met according to adjournment at nine o'clock A. M., Pres. Mosher in the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. Thos. McElroy of Iowa. The roll was called and a quorum was found to be present. The minutes of the Friday's session were read and approved.

Summerbell of Maine moved that a committee of five be appointed, of whom the mover of the motion should not be one, to present ten names, from which five may be selected to complete the Conference Board. The president appointed as such committee, Lowden of Massachusetts, Durkee of New York, Batson of Minnesota, Miss Brockett of Ohio, and Smith of Nebraska.

On motion Jefferson of New Hampshire was excused from attendance until Monday.

The committee on Sunday-schools presented their report, which was adopted, as follows:

Whereas in the Sunday-school we are molding the material to be built into the future churches composing our denomination, *Resolved*,

First, that we recommend the introduction of strictly evangelistic methods in all our schools; that pastors, officers, and teachers urge the immediate public acceptance of Christ, and be satisfied with nothing short of the conversion of their scholars.

Second, that, in view of the increasing ravages of Kings Alcohol and Tobacco among our youth, we recommend that faithful testimony against those evils be steadily given in all our schools, and that the youth be pledged to abstinence from their use.

Third, that we urge upon all our Sunday-schools the importance of some system of regular instruction in missions and the practice of regular and proportional giving for the advance of Christ's kingdom.

Fourth, that, since the recognized authority of God's Word and a suitable reverence for the same are essential to the building of Christian character, we deplore the decreasing use of the Bible in the Sunday-school class, even though it be displaced by the best modern Sunday-school literature, viz., that published by our own Publishing House. We urge the increasing use of the whole Bible in the schools.

Fifth, That we reaffirm the recommendation of the last General Conference in regard to the introduction and increasing of the "home department" of the Sunday-school work.

Sixth, that we request the committee on program for the next General Conference to give time for the presentation of the Sunday-school work.

(Signed.) J. W. PARSONS, W. J. TWORT, T. O. MCMINN, D. D. MITCHELL, J. BLACKSTONE, J. TREE, *Committee.*

The committee on Education presented a report in reference to West Virginia College, which on motion was referred to the Conference Board.

Dr. Summerbell of Maine, president of the Correspondence School, was given a few minutes in which he explained the method of instruction employed in conducting the recitations of the correspondence pupils, and the system of communication between the instructors and the students.

The committee on Bible Cause presented their report, a part of which was received, and the remainder referred to the Conference Board.

On motion of Webb of Maine it was voted that when Conference adjourns it be to reassemble at 7.30 this evening. On motion Conference adjourned to 7.30 P. M. N. S. PURINTON, *Clerk.*

After the adjournment a visit was paid to the fair grounds, where the college and the city officials had arranged for a public reception.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Cone of Winnebago City. President Burgess offered an address of welcome to the Conference on behalf of the mayor and city council. A response was made by Pres. Mosher in

his usual happy vein. Other addresses were made by Rev. E. W. Porter of Storer College on "Our Country"; by Pres. G. H. Ball, D. D., president of Keuka College, N. Y., on "Christian Colleges a Political and a Social Necessity"; by Rev. N. Ricks, the colored orator from Cairo, Ill., on "Consideration," and by the Rev. J. J. Hull of Winnebago on "The Growing West." Refreshments were then served in the "Auditorium," after which the delegates were taken in carriages, supplied by the board of trade and the citizens, for a drive about the country; all of which courtesies were gratefully appreciated by the Conference.

While the afternoon was thus passing, a meeting of the Woman's Missionary Society was held, and the following officers were elected for that body:

President, Mary A. Davis of Rhode Island.

Corresponding secretary, Mrs. S. C. G. Avery of New Hampshire.

Home secretaries, Mrs. E. D. Jordan for New England, Mrs. A. M. Armel for Central, Ohio, and Ontario Associations, Mrs. A. A. McKenney for Western and Southern states.

Secretaries of Children's Department, Mrs. F. S. Mosher and Mrs. A. E. Dexter.

Recording secretary, Mrs. Alice M. Metcalf of Rhode Island.

Treasurer, Miss L. A. DeMeritte.

Assistant treasurer, Miss Edyth Porter.

Auditor, Mrs. E. B. Chamberlain.

WINNEBAGO CITY, MINN., Oct. 5, 1895.

After a prayer-meeting led by Rev. G. B. Cutler of Rhode Island, the president called the Conference to order at half-past seven. Prayer was offered by Rev. Z.

F. Griffin of Balasore, India. The clerk called the ro and a quorum was found to be present. The minut of the morning session were read and approved.

The special committee on nominations for the Co ference Board offered a report containing ten name from which five were to be selected, and which the had chosen with a view to equalize the geographical di tribution of the Board. They offered these names on printed ballot as follows:

E. W. Porter, West Virginia; W. J. Fulton, Ohio; W. P. Va Wormer, Kansas; G. A. Gordon, Illinois; E. O. Dickinson, Wi consin; L. W. Raymond, New York; D. D. Mitchell, Iowa; S. Smith, Nebraska: C. A. Bickford, Massachusetts; H. R. Farnun Rhode Island.

(Signed.) J. M. LOWDEN, J. H. DURKEE, J. D. BATSON, R. E. BROCKETT, S. F. SMITH, } *Committee.*

On motion the report of the committee was adopte

Webb of Maine moved that Conference now pro ceed to ballot for the five remaining members of th Conference Board, and the motion was carried.

Davison of Vermont, Avery and Getchell of Ne Hampshire, acted as tellers to distribute and colle ballots, which were placed in the hands of the can vassers of the vote for Conference Board.

These, having performed their duty, presented th following report:

Your committee on vote of Conference Board has received an canvassed the vote for the five remaining members of the Boar The whole number of votes cast was 85, of which 2 were defectiv

l not counted, as per vote of Conference. The whole number nted therefore was 83, of which 42 were necessary to election. e following persons, having received the requisite number of tes, should be declared elected:

W. J. Fulton, Ohio, 68; E. O. Dickinson, Wisconsin, 59; G. A. rdon, Illinois, 56; W. P. Van Wormer, Kansas, 55; E. W. rter, West Virginia, 45.

Others voted for, but who did not receive the requisite number ballots for election, were as follows:

D. D. Mitchell, Iowa, 30; L. W. Raymond, New York, 36; H. . Farnum, Rhode Island, 24; G. H. Ball, New York, 12; S. F. nith, Nebraska, 11; C. A. Bickford, Massachusetts, 5; A. E. ilson, New York, 5; D. A. Tucker, Indiana, 4; J. M. Lowden, assachusetts, 3.

(Signed.) E. E. DAVIS, N. A. AVERY, M. A. SHEPARD, Z. A. SPACE, W. H. GETCHELL, } *Canvassers.*

On motion the above was accepted as the final report f the committee, and the president declared the first ve persons named in the report as duly elected to iembership in the Conference Board.

The Conference Board thus completed is constituted s follows:

Mrs. Ella H. Andrews, Providence, R. I.; Rev. G. A. Burgess, . D., Winnebago City, Minn.; Mrs. M. A. W. Bachelder, Hills- le, Mich.; Mrs. E. B. Cheney, Lewiston, Me.; Rev. Ellen A. opp, Hillsdale, Mich.; Mrs. L. M. P. Durgin, Winnebago City, linn.; Rev. E. O. Dickinson, Racine, Wis.; Dea. Rufus Deering, ortland, Me.; Miss L. A. DeMeritte, Dover, N. H.; Rev. W. J. ulton, Rio Grande, O.; Rev. H. M. Ford, Hillsdale, Mich.; Rev. . A. Gordon, Campbell Hill, Ill.; Rev. Arthur Given, D. D., oston, Mass.; Rev. R. D. Lord, D. D., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Hon.

G. F. Mosher, LL. D., Hillsdale, Mich.; Rev. O. D. Patch, Manchester, N. H.; Rev. E. W. Porter, Harper's Ferry, W. Va.; Mrs. Thera B. True, Edgewood, Ia.; Hon. L. M. Webb, Portland, Me.; Rev. W. P. Van Wormer, Rome City, Kan.; Rev. J. T. Ward, D. D., Minneapolis, Minn.

On motion McLaughlin of Kansas was excused for the remainder of the session. On motion Gilkey of New Hampshire and Batson of Minnesota were excused from attendance after the session of Monday morning.

The committee on Church Polity, through the chairman, Dr. Summerbell of Maine, presented a report, in response to inquiries respecting the relative duties of trustees and deacons, which on motion was adopted as read:

The deacons are officers of the church directly. They are elected by vote of the church, and may be inducted into their office by ordination when it so pleases the church. They are to arrange for the administration of the ordinances, visit and console the sick, have in custody the distribution of the funds contributed at the communion service, and with the pastor to have general spiritual oversight of the converts and membership of the church. Also when the congregation, or parish, has neglected to elect trustees or a parish committee, the deacons are to attend to the duties which should be performed by such regular officers. In some states by statute law, in default of such regular officers duly elected, the deacons are vested with the control of the church property. Under a proper organization, however, the deacon's office does not cover the regular business of the congregation or parish.

The trustees or parish committee, where such officers have been chosen by the society or parish, have general control for such society, or parish, of its secular business, such as entering into contract with the pastor, raising and disbursing the funds of the society, or

parish, and having control of the house of worship. Under this right of control, however, the trustees are to have the house in readiness for all regular meetings of the church, Sunday-school, or other departments of the church which hold stated meetings, and for protracted services as announced by the pastor. When it is desired to use the place of worship or any of its apartments for purposes other than these mentioned, the consent of the trustees or parish committee should be obtained before public announcement is made. In granting use of place of worship for organizations outside the church, the trustees should in all cases act in consultation with the pastor.

(Signed.) M. SUMMERBELL, L. H. SPRAGUE, E. H. HIGBEE, J. M. KAYSER, CLARA A. RICKER, } *Committee.*

Deering of Maine, for the Finance Committee, submitted a report which was discussed item by item, and a part was referred to the Conference Board, and the remainder was adopted as follows:

1. That a tax of one cent per resident member per year for three years, to be paid on or before Sept. 1 of the year 1896, 1897, and 1898, be assessed on all Yearly Meetings or Associations, the amounts to be used for current expenses of the General Conference, such as expenses of the Conference Board, expenses of corresponding messengers to other bodies, etc.

2. Inasmuch as there is a large per cent of the two-cent tax assessed for the years 1892 to 1895 still due, we recommend that the Yearly Meetings or Associations in arrears be urged to pay their obligations immediately.

3. That the recording secretary be paid fifty dollars for three years and his expenses incurred in attending General Conference.

(Signed.) RUFUS DEERING, A. L. RUSSELL, ELLA H. ANDREWS, J. D. BATSON, L. E. KELLEY, } *Committee.*

Hayes of Maine, for the committee on the Ministry, submitted a report, which after discussion was adopted as follows:

1. Minimum requirements for ordination, *Resolved*,

(1) That the Conference Board is hereby instructed to raise a special committee to arrange a graded course of study to be the minimum of scholarly attainment to be required of all candidates for ordination, said course to cover not less than three years, and to make said course of study a necessary condition for the renewal of any license and for ordination.

(2) After the above course of study is prepared, all committees charged with the renewal of ministers' licenses shall require that each candidate present a certificate from the faculty of some recognized school of learning, the Correspondence School included, of satisfactory progress in scholarship during the year, or else give evidence of such progress by passing a satisfactory examination before the committee in the studies of the annual Conference course.

(3) That all licenses be regarded as of three grades, to be known as primary, junior, and senior licenses, and that before the junior license be granted the candidate shall have passed an examination in the studies assigned in the Conference course for the first year, and before receiving a senior license the candidate shall have passed an examination in the studies of the second year or their equivalent, and that each candidate before receiving ordination shall pass a satisfactory examination in the studies of the entire Conference course, or shall have gained diplomas or certificates showing that he has passed through at least an equivalent course of study in some institution of learning, the Correspondence School being reckoned such.

(4) That the primary and junior grades of license may be granted twice but not more, and that a candidate who twice fails to show satisfactory progress in the studies for either grade of license be advised to serve Christ and the church in some calling for which he has better qualifications.

It shall be the duty of the Ministers' Conference of each ly Meeting or Association to require of each Free Baptist min- residing within its bounds and not connected with any other iters' conference an annual report respecting his work and his rship with the ministers of the Conference, and to issue to all e report and standing are satisfactory a certificate of standing for one year.

In Yearly Meetings or Associations where no ministers' con- ce attends to this duty of issuing such delicate certificate of ing it shall devolve on the Yearly Meeting or Association.

A minister moving into a Yearly Meeting to serve as pastor rangelist shall be deemed as in good standing and eligible to bership in the ministers' conference and in Quarterly and ly Meetings only when he presents a valid certificate of good ling; and churches that purpose to employ ministers as pas- or evangelists should first ascertain that such ministers have certificates of good standing; and churches neglecting so to e to be regarded as proceeding in a disorderly manner.

(Signed.) B. F. HAYES, A. GIVEN, A. W. AVERY, D. B. MARTIN, T. I. JORDAN, } *Committee.*

all of New York, for the committee of Doctrine, nitted the following resolution, which was pted :

ie General Conference emphatically declares that baptism by ersion should be required of all candidates for membership in Baptist churches.

(Signed.) G. H. BALL. C. S. PERKINS. G. A. GORDON. J. H. MAYNARD. G. B. CUTLER.

Ball of New York, for the special committee to prepare a reply to Rev. T. E. Peden of Ohio, submitted the following communication, which was adopted as read, and the clerk was directed to forward the same to the brother in the name of the Conference:

Thomas E. Peden and Others:

DEAR BRETHREN: — The Free Baptist General Conference acknowledges the receipt of your favor of Sept. 30, 1895, dated at Sciotoville, O., and has carefully considered the points of interest presented. In response the Conference is glad to express entire confidence in your sincerity, yet it deeply regrets the attitude you have assumed. In changing some of the methods of the work of the Freewill Baptist denomination it was expected that some diversity of views would be entertained. The experience of other denominations, while making such changes, led to expectations of this kind, but to the credit of Freewill Baptists it can be truly said that their forbearance and kindness in the premises have exceeded that of any other denomination in like circumstances. Out of a resident membership of 58,847 the large number of 49,563 voted in favor of the changes proposed before said changes were made. And since that vote was taken, and the changes put into operation, the expressed feeling in favor of the new order of things is warm and almost unanimous. The reports which have come up to this General Conference from the Yearly Meetings and Associations are most cheering, indicating new life and courage in all our borders.

We devoutly wish that you especially, dear Bro. Peden, could have been with us, both to feel and increase this new inspiration. The Conference writes you to express its warm and most fraternal interest in you personally, and the unanimous wish of the brotherhood that you will reconsider your attitude and fully resume your walk with the people who always have highly esteemed you, and with whom you have labored many years with significant success.

(Signed.) GEO. H. BALL,
L. M. WEBB,
MRS. E. B. CHENEY,
W. J. FULTON,
O. D. PATCH,
Committee.

Mrs. Cheney of Maine, for the committee on Foreign Missions, presented a report, which was adopted as follows:

1. With gratitude to God for the blessings which have attended our mission in India, we hereby pledge ourselves to renewed devotion to the interests of this important branch of our denominational work.

2. We wish especially to encourage the increased use of native Christian help in different departments of mission work, and express appreciation of the growth in self-support among native Christians.

3. We urge our India committee to refrain from the employment of Hindu teachers in so far as it is possible to supply the needs of the work with others.

4. We consider the erection of a substantial building for the India Bible school a most important movement, and trust that work so well begun will be continued, and the building dedicated free from debt.

5. Whereas the continued deficiency in the Foreign Mission treasury saddens our hearts with the necessity for retrenchment, when the needs of the field call for enlargement; and whereas attention is being called more and more to a scriptural method of raising funds, those who practise it being unanimous in their testimony to its value, and it being a self-evident fact that its adoption would insure an overflowing treasury, therefore resolved that we urge our people to consider carefully the tithing system, and strive to make the tenth of their income at least the minimum of their benevolences.

(Signed.) EMELINE B. CHENEY, R. M. CLOUD, LOMA GARWOOD, L. F. SHERRITT, F. E. DAVISON, *Committee.*

Lord of New York, for the committee on Home Missions, offered a supplementary report, which was adopted as follows:

Whereas, in view of past experience in the loss of church property by its passing out of our denominational control;

Resolved, That this General Conference earnestly recommends to all our churches, as a measure of self-preservation and of denominational upbuilding, that they deed their church property, including parsonages, to the General Conference of Free Baptists, or to their Yearly Meeting or State Association if incorporated, and receive from said corporation a quitclaim deed, on the conditions that the church or society keep the property insured, pay all taxes, never mortgage without the written consent of the body to whom the property was deeded, sustain worship, and remain connected with the General Conference of Free Baptists.

2. *Whereas* many churches much need a temporary loan to aid in the erection of houses of worship, therefore

Resolved, That this General Conference of Free Baptists recommends the continued solicitation of contributions and bequests for the church extension fund, and that the Conference Board loan from this fund for three years or less without interest, in each case taking security for such loan.

(Signed.) R. D. LORD, THOMAS MCELROY, M. A. SHEPARD, MARY R. WADE, D. D. MITCHELL, S. F. SMITH, *Committee.*

On motion of Burgess of Minnesota it was voted that when Conference adjourns it be to reassemble on Monday morning at nine o'clock.

After prayer by Rev. E. Wood of Illinois, Conference adjourned. N. S. PURINTON, *Clerk.*

On Sunday the services were of a very interesting character. Rev. W. P. Van Wormer of Kansas led the devotional meeting at 9.30, Rev. F. E. Davison of Vermont leading the singing.

At 10.30 the church was filled for the morning service. The scriptures were read by Rev. N. W. Bixby of Iowa, the oldest minister in attendance, and prayer was offered by Rev. B. F. McKenney of Minnesota. Mrs. A. E. Dexter of New Hampshire sang "Fading Away," as a solo. The report of the committee on Necrology, which appears in the "Minutes," was read by the Rev. J. Erskine of New Hampshire, with especial reference to the life and work of Rev. Silas Curtis of New Hampshire. Among the deceased of the triennium were Drs. J. Calder, A. D. Williams, and J. L. Phillips. Remarks followed respecting deceased brethren by Rev. C. S. Perkins of New Hampshire, Rev. J. H. Maynard of Michigan, and Rev. Ellen A. Copp of Michigan, the latter mentioning Rev. Ada Kennan, the only woman preacher of the denomination who had been taken away since the last Conference. The Rev. J. S. Manning of Illinois, who had been taken, was mentioned as one of whom the recording angel could have no account save that of good works. The Lord's Supper was administered by Bro's Erskine and Bixby, Bro's Deering, Russell, and the two Coreys acting as deacons. A collection of $30 was taken for the Ministers' Relief Fund.

At the afternoon service the new church was dedicated, the edifice being packed to its utmost capacity. The Rev. E. N. Spafford, the pastor, had charge. The invocation was offered by Rev. J. W. Parsons of Rhode Island, the scriptures were read by Rev. W. J. Fultz of Maine, and the sermon delivered by Rev. J. M. Lowden of Massachusetts. Pres. Burgess offered the report of the building committee, after which pledges were

J. Twort of Massachusetts,

A young people's meeti
o'clock, conducted by Pr
The speakers were Dr. Lo
A. Copp of Michigan, Rev.
and Rev. J. M. Lowden, th
of the United Society of
meeting closed with the
editor of the *Free Baptist.*

The evening service ope
D. D. Mitchell of Iowa, scr
Space of New York, and
New York. Mrs. Dexter of
general acceptance. Rev. A
delivered the sermon.

Other pulpits were supplie
M. Parsons and J. Erskine sp
church, and Dr. Hayes and R
the Methodist church.

WINNEBAGO CITY, MINN., Oct. 7, 1895.

The Conference assembled at nine o'clock A. M., according to adjournment. Prayer was offered by Rev. J. Blackstone of Louisiana. The clerk called the roll and found that a quorum was present. The minutes of the Saturday evening session were read and approved.

Summerbell of Maine offered a resolution on the public schools, which was adopted as follows:

Resolved, that we as Free Baptists reaffirm our allegiance to the system of public schools, as founded and maintained by the state, for the help and instruction of the children of all our citizens, and that we pledge our people to resist every attempt, direct or indirect, to divert any of the common school funds for the profit of any sect or denomination.

Mrs. Batchelder of Michigan, for the committee on Correspondence, offered a report:

During this session of General Conference we have received and been addressed by Rev. John H. Morley, superintendent of the Congregational Home Missionary Society of Minnesota, Rev. Geo. D. Black, pastor of the Park Avenue Congregational church, Minneapolis, and Rev. F. A. Cone of Winnebago City, representing the Methodist Minnesota Conference. Report has been received from Rev. N. C. Brackett, through Rev. E. W. Porter, of a visit made by him to the North Carolina Freewill Baptists, both white and colored. Owing to some radical differences of opinion, Bro. Brackett thinks no closer union with them can at present be effected. A letter and pamphlet have also been received from Rev. William C. Daland, a committee of the General Conference of Seventh Day Baptists. We recommend that our clerk be instructed to send a courteous reply, stating that no action has been taken.

We have received a communication on Christian union from t
American Christian Convention, which arrived too late for actio
We therefore recommend that it be referred to the Conferen
Board.

We especially desire to emphasize the fraternal relations wi
our brethren of Nova Scotia, and recommend that Rev. W.
Fultz of Maine be our delegate to the approaching session of t
Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia.

We also recommend that some one be appointed by the Co
ference Board to represent us at the next session of the Americ
Christian Convention.

(Signed.) M. A. W. BATCHELDER, W. H. FULTZ, E. E. DAVIS, L. H. BROWN, E. C. CLARKE, *Committee.*

Newell of New York, for the committee on O
Country, submitted a supplementary report, which w
discussed by Blackstone of Louisiana, Porter of We
Virginia, Lord of New York, Schnell of New York, a
others. The report was finally adopted, as follows:

Resolved, 1. That we request our government to see to it th
all citizens, without distinction of race or nationality, in every secti
of our country, be protected in the common and fullest right
citizenship.

2. That this General Conference regrets the unlawful and i
human treatment by American citizens of the Chinese and oth
foreigners domiciled in this country, and most earnestly reque
our government to guarantee full protection to every human bei
on American soil.

3. That, in view of recent atrocities on American missionar
in China, we would hereby express our unqualified condemnati
of such wicked practices in the light of the civilization of this a
and that we extend our sympathies to those who are threatened
well as to those who are suffering from the effects of such atrociti

4. That we recommend this resolution to be brought to the notice of the Secretary of State, as also the other on the Armenian persecution.

(Signed.) L. M. WEBB, W. H. GETCHELL, E. NEWELL, H. G. HILL, N. RICKS, } *Committee.*

Ward, of the committee on the Denomination, presented a report, which was discussed and recommitted.

Pres. Burgess of Minnesota at this time stated that $71.05 additional had been contributed towards the building fund of the Winnebago church, making the sum total $2273.05; that Wilson of New York had secured $42, by the sale of two quilts, for the Horton church, Kansas, and that a collection had been taken to assist Blackstone to return to Louisiana, amounting to $11.35.

On motion Newell of New York, Parsons of Rhode Island, and Brown of Illinois were excused from further attendance on this session of Conference.

Patch of the Committee on Requests presented a report, part of which was recommitted and finally adopted as follows:

Whereas the Southwestern Missouri Yearly Meeting, composed of the Eldorado, Granby, and Greenfield Quarterly Meetings, having 12 churches, 13 ministers, 415 communicants, and church property valued at $3575, has by letter already read before this Conference asked admission to our body, therefore we recommend that the request be granted, and that the Southwestern Missouri Yearly Meeting be received into membership.

We recommend that the plea of the Genesee Yearly Meeting for greater accuracy in statistical records be referred to the Conference Board, with instructions to prepare and have printed blank forms for Quarterly Meetings, Yearly Meetings, and General Conference letters, for gratuitous use by clerks whose duty it is to prepare such letters.

We recommend that the request from the Indiana Association that General Conference provide for a more systematic organization of our work, by providing model constitutions for our Yearly Meetings, Quarterly Meetings, and churches, be referred to the committee appointed by the Conference Board on Ministers' Manual, with the request that such model constitutions be there provided.

Touching the request from the same Association that all provision for watch-care or associate members in our churches be stricken from our Treatise, it is the opinion of your committee that the receiving of such members has no sanction in the latest edition of our Treatise, which is in our judgment sufficiently explicit upon that point.

Touching the request from the Wisconsin Yearly Meeting that each minister or church be advised to send five dollars annually for ten years to the Ministers' Relief Bureau, one-fifth of which shall be for current use and four-fifths for a permanent endowment, your committee recommend that this bureau be placed under the control of the Conference Board, that the treasurer of the General Conference be the custodian of its funds, that the condition and needs of the bureau be kept before our people in the columns of our papers.

Regarding the request of the Pine Creek Association of Pennsylvania for admission to this Conference, your committee are o the opinion that, inasmuch as the Association is numerically small and located within the bounds of the New York and Pennsylvania Yearly Meeting, it would be wiser for the Association to seek membership in that body.

Touching the case of the Rev. O. C. Hills, who was expelled from the Wellsboro church, Pa., on Sept. 9, 1891, and whom the

New York and Pennsylvania Yearly Meeting refused to recognize as a minister in good standing because of such expulsion, and who appeals from the decision of that Yearly Meeting to this Conference for redress, your committee, having carefully considered the case, agree upon the following: In our judgment the proper place for the adjustment of this difficulty is in the Tioga Quarterly Meeting, to which the Wellsboro church belongs, which Quarterly Meeting, as we are credibly informed, stands ready to accord to the aggrieved party the fullest and fairest investigation possible.

This appeal to General Conference, therefore, which has jurisdiction not over individuals, churches, or Quarterly Meetings, but only over Yearly Meetings or Associations, cannot consistently be complied with till all laudable efforts for adjustment in these lower organizations have failed.

(Signed.) O. D. PATCH, J. H. DURKEE, A. GIVEN, J. W. HALLACK, W. J. TWORT, } *Committee.*

In accordance with the report as adopted, President Mosher declared the Southwestern Missouri Yearly Meeting of Free Baptists admitted to membership in the Conference.

Mitchell of Iowa moved that when Conference adjourns it be to reassemble at two o'clock this afternoon. The motion was carried, and, after prayer by Rev. M. A. Shepard of Illinois, the Conference adjourned.

N. S. PURINTON, *Clerk.*

WINNEBAGO CITY, MINN., Oct. 7, 1895.

The Conference reassembled at two o'clock, as per adjournment. Prayer was offered by Rev. T. O. McMinn of Illinois. The clerk called the roll and found a quorum present. The minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

The committee on Credentials, through Cutler of Rhode Island, submitted its final report, which on motion was adopted. (See statistical table, pp. 2, 3.)

Fulton of Ohio, of the committee on Publications, presented the report on publications, which was amended and adopted as follows:

Resolved, That this Conference rejoices in the present outlook for the Morning Star Publishing House as it appears from the publisher's report, and that it extend its hearty congratulations to the editors and publisher of the *Morning Star* for the greatly improved form and make-up in which its last issue appears.

2. That we heartily commend the *Free Baptist* for its excellence, and that we urge on all our people, and especially on the West, an increase of its patronage not only for its helpfulness but for encouraging the missionary cause it represents, and that we as a people may properly understand the work and needs of this great field.

3. That we pledge our loyalty and support to the *Morning Star*, *Free Baptist*, and *Missionary Helper*, and urge all the Free Baptist Sunday-schools to use the *Star Quarterlies* and to distribute the *Myrtle* as widely as possible.

4. That we urgently recommend the benevolent among our people to contribute funds, as they may be able, to maintain the *Free Baptist*, and to thus help in enlarging our influence for the good of mankind and the glory of God.

5. That pastors hereafter are expected to present the taking of a denominational paper as a duty to all persons who shall unite with our churches, and reports shall be called for at Quarterly Meetings or conferences, stating the number in each church complying. Reports shall also be printed in the *Register*, showing number of papers taken.

6. That General Conference be requested to prepare a compact history of our denomination for the use of our schools and homes.

(Signed.) L. A. DeMeritte,
J. M. Lowden,
O. D. Patch,
H. M. Ford,
W. J. Fulton,
Committee.

Porter of West Virginia, for the committee on Bible Cause, offered a report, which was adopted as follows:

We note with pleasure the better understanding and wider use by the people of the Word of God, and that we are in the day of its fuller and clearer shining, as evinced by the multiplying of efficient Bible schools, on practical lines of instruction, by the place given to the Word by the secular as well as by the religious press, and by the better furnishing of Christian agencies, therefore

Resolved, 1. That we recommend to our churches the general distribution of the Bible and of biblical literature, and that financial provision be made for the same.

2. That our ministers and Christian workers be and hereby are requested to use a bountiful supply of biblical leaflets and cards in parish and local church work.

3. That we urge, where already state and county Bible societies are organized, that our churches and ministers heartily unite with them; but, where there are no such organizations, we suggest that our Quarterly Meetings and State Associations organize for special Bible canvass of each community.

E. W. PORTER,
H. T. CLARK,
L. M. DAVIS,
E. WOOD,
C. CLARK,
} *Committee.*

Ward of Minnesota reported from the committee on the Denomination, and the report was adopted as follows:

1. It affords your committee great pleasure to report that the spiritual interests of our denomination are in excellent condition, harmony of effort and brotherly love generally prevailing, with a marked determination to press forward and strengthen our forces along every line of church work.

2. We would especially notice the rapid and healthy growth of the young people's movement, the steady advance of our Sunday-school interests, the increasing loyalty to our various missionary enterprises, both at home and in the foreign field, and a growing disposition to make more permanent and increase the usefulness of all our organizations.

3. We are glad to note the almost entire unanimity with which our denomination has expressed its desire to co-operate with the new Conference Board and adopt its plan of work. It is significant of great loyalty to our cause, and we think predicts grand results for our future growth and success.

4. We would urge on our Board the great importance of aggressive work throughout our bounds, and especially in the Western field. Let not the appeals which come up from the South and West become an old story, or be disregarded because so often heard, but rather let them sink into our hearts and move to both prayer and effort in behalf of those who are crying to us, from the river to the mountains, "Come over and help us."

5. We recognize with grateful hearts the directing hand of Almighty God in the progress we have made during the past three years and in enabling us to harmoniously organize under the new constitution and by-laws, and we pray that he may in his infinite wisdom continue to bless our beloved denomination, ever keeping us free from antagonisms in our own body, and protecting us from discord and strife, both within and without, to the end that we may grow in strength and influence among the people of God, and thereby become an increased power for the advance of the kingdom of Christ in the whole earth.

6. While we heartily desire the union of God's people, we feel that such union must come, if at all, without any sacrifice of principle on our part, as we do not ask it of others. And believing, as we do, that immersion is the only proper form of baptism, and that all the Lord's children have a right and privilege at his table, wherever spread, we see no reason to hope for union with others in the near future.

7. We recommend that each state Association or Yearly Meeting appoint a committee which shall confer with similar committees appointed by local bodies in other denominations, for the purpose of preventing the establishing of an unnecessary number of churches in any one locality.

We deprecate the constant discussion of the subject of union other denominations, as it turns the attention of our people practical work for the Master, and is detrimental to the best sts of Zion.

(Signed.) J. T. WARD.
E. O. DICKINSON.
A. M. METCALF.
E. S. BRANCH.
J. ERSKINE.

urgess of Minnesota reported from the committee Education the following, which on motion was ted:

That we recognize with especial thankfulness the beneficence a. L. W. Anthony. who has erected Roger Williams Hall, the iful and perfectly adapted home of the Cobb Divinity School.

That we urge all churches not only to observe annually the tional Sunday, but to collect offerings regularly according to ard system arranged by the Conference Board, in order that r students may increase as the number of students is ing.

(Signed.) G. A. BURGESS.
ELLEN A. COPP.
RUTH E. BROCKETT.
Z. A. SPACE.
H. C. LOWDEN.

ard of the committee on Home Missions reported ollowing resolutions, which were adopted:

olved, that we recommend to our Yearly Meetings and Asso- ns the appointment of state or district agents, who shall give their entire time; who shall go over their fields, care for weak hes, raise money, pay debts, supply pulpits, and do evangel- work. They shall be expected to encourage the taking of terature, keep their fields in touch with denominational in- s, and, in short, shall exercise a general supervision of their and work. We heartily recommend this policy as the most nt means of securing these ends.

Whereas, we believe that the observance of the four missi days, so called, has been of great value to our mission work, ther fore, *Resolved*, that this General Conference hereby approves a indorses these special days, and recommends their observance our pastors and churches as fitting times when special effort shall made to increase the regular contributions by the mission cards, well as to impart information and to secure money for the speci causes presented on those days.

Whereas, there is an ever increasing demand for Home Missi funds, and also as so large a proportion of said funds is used with the states where raised, it results that a very small sum is receiv by our Home Mission Board, therefore, *Resolved*, that we mo earnestly urge each pastor to endeavor to raise a larger amount meet the demands of our treasury, and also to educate his peop to more generous benevolence, and to send all money raised to i treasurer of General Conference.

(Signed.) R. D. LORD, THOS. MCELROY, M. A. SHEPARD, MARY R. WADE, D. D. MITCHELL, S. F. SMITH, } *Committee.*

On motion of Mrs. Cheney of Maine, ten min was given to Bro's Griffin and Stiles to present needs of our foreign mission field. A few mor were spent in prayer, and the brethren, with chc voice, told of the burdens of debt and the bu needs of the work in India. Contributions were taken, which amounted to $1545, toward the def $3000 in the foreign treasury.

Lowden of Massachusetts offered the followin lution on Assembly work, which was adopted :

Resolved, that in this day, when God is marshalling agencies for the better equipment of those who are fig battle of truth, we hail with great pleasure the Asser carried on by our people at Keuka, N. Y., and at Ocean and we extend to them our hearty sympathy and co-ope

On motion voted to excuse Ball of New York, Long of Ohio, Wood and Ricks of Illinois, and Clarke of New Hampshire, at five o'clock, from further attendance on the session.

On motion it was voted that the president have power to grant leave of absence to any other brethren who may find it necessary to leave before the Conference concludes its sitting.

Hayes of Maine for the committee on the Ministry presented a supplementary report, which was adopted as follows:

Resolved, that churches in seeking the ordination or installation of any person to the ministry should make application directly or indirectly through their Quarterly Meetings, to the executive committee of the ministers' conference of the Association or Yearly Meeting, for the appointment of a council to examine, and if thought best to ordain or install; or in Associations and Yearly Meetings where no ministers' conference having jurisdiction in this matter exists, the application should be made to the executive committee in appointing ordaining and installing councils which should name one of their number to sit with the council and make report of its action.

2. That Conference recommend that candidates for license or ordination, who are not in any other school, pursue the studies of the Conference course under the direction of the faculty of the Correspondence School.

3. That the Conference learns with pleasure that the Correspondence School has been very beneficial to certain pastors, and has led some to seek a more complete theological course at some of our divinity schools, and would urge that many more seek a similar benefit.

4. That this Conference, recognizing that the usage of Christendom designates by the title "Reverend," or its ancient equivalent, "Elder," only persons who are ordained to the Gospel ministry, urges all pastors and churches to discountenance the application of these titles to any other persons.

5. That we commend the wisdom of Bates College in inaugurating a Bible training school in connection with Cobb Divinity school, for the help of evangelists and lay workers and candidates for the pastorate who cannot take a more extended course, and also for pastors who may desire it, and recommend that school to the patronage of such persons.

6. *Whereas* the cry for more equipped laborers in the ministry was never so urgent as now, *Resolved*, that we welcome the appointment by the united young people's societies of Brethren Ford, Stiles, and H. S. Myers as a committee to seek for consecrated and deserving candidates for the ministry, and encourage them to take a thorough course of study in preparation for the work of pastors and evangelists, and we urge all pastors to be earnest in the same work.

7. *Resolved*, that the Conference considers the action taken by Storer College, to establish a biblical department, as of vital importance to this institution and our interests in Virginia and the Southern field.

(Signed.) B. F. HAYES, A. GIVEN, A. W. AVERY, D. N. MARTIN, T. I. JORDAN, } *Committee.*

Dickinson of Wisconsin submitted the following resolution, which on motion was adopted:

Resolved, that the article in the report of the committee on the Ministry, giving the power of ordination to the Ministers' Conferences of Yearly Meetings or Associations, be substituted in the Treatise for the article giving this matter to the Quarterly Meetings.

Webb, of the special committee on Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, that the Conference Board be and hereby is directed to present in writing and to have proper notice given of amendments to the constitution as follows:

1. An amendment providing for a reduction in the number of the Conference Board.

2. An amendment that a certain part of said Board hold over for more than three years.

3. An amendment providing that the members of said Board shall enter upon the discharge of their duties at the annual meeting of the Board in the year succeeding the year of their election.

4. An amendment to Article 6 of the constitution, inserting the words "corresponding secretary" after the word "treasurer" in the second line.

And that proper notice of these proposed amendments be given by the clerk of the Conference. L. M. WEBB, *for the Com.*

On motion of Lowden of Massachusetts it was voted that the question of place for holding the next Conference be referred to the Conference Board with power.

On motion it was voted not to approve the recommendation of the Conference Board in fixing the date of the next Conference for the fourth Tuesday of August.

On motion the date for holding the next General Conference was referred to the Conference Board with power.

On motion it was voted that the clerk request the editors of *Morning Star* and the *Free Baptist* to repeat the resolutions, which they may print, which are of particular interest to the churches.

On motion the thanks of Conference were voted to Bro's Burgess and Hull for their active and efficient efforts in securing reduced rates for returning delegates.

On motion it was voted to adopt the following resolutions, as found in the printed minutes of the Conference at Lowell:

Resolved, 1. That the committee on the Ministry be instructed to nominate a standing committee of three, to be known as the Ministerial Record Committee, whose duties shall be to report at the next session of General Conference all deaths occurring in our ministry, together with last place of residence, date, age, and term of service in the ministry, and also to report the accessions to our ministry, including

a. Accessions by entrance from other denominations, the denomination from which the candidate comes, date o nition in our body, length of service, and pastorates hither

b. Accessions by ordination, giving date of ordination authority under which the ordaining council acted; and, cor the candidate, his age, preparation in studies, and experi Christian work.

2. That this Ministerial Record Committee be and h instructed to report the number of Yearly Meetings, Asso and Quarterly Meetings having organized ministers' conf the degree of discipline and brotherly oversight maintained organizations, and the general state of our ministry as per efficiency and reputation.

3. That the expenses of subscription to denominational necessary in collecting these items, and of postage and st necessarily involved in correspondence, be allowed by this ence.

On motion of Davis of Maine it was voted th clerk and Summerbell of Maine be a commit prepare and publish the minutes of this Conferen

On motion it was voted that when Conferen journs it be to reassemble at seven o'clock this ev After prayer by Rev. L. Dexter of New Hampshi Conference adjourned. N. S. PURINTON, *C*

WINNEBAGO CITY, MINN., Oct.

The Conference reassembled at seven o'clock, a ing to adjournment, President Mosher pre Prayer was offered by Rev. E. W. Porter of Virginia. The clerk called the roll and found quorum was present. The minutes of the aft session were read and approved.

Dexter of New Hampshire presented the fol resolution, which was adopted :

In view of the excessive burdens and discouragemen weigh so heavily on our brethren and sisters in India, th sponding secretary be asked to write a fraternal letter to th

g them that they are not forgotten, that the debt is not per-
d longer to stand in the way of progress, and that our prayers
:fforts are pledged to a more aggressive policy.

he committee on the Ministry, to which had been
rred the nomination of three persons to serve as a
ımittee on Ministerial Record, reported as their
ice, A. L. Freeman of Boston, Rev. G. H. Ball, D.D.,
New York, and Rev. R. Dunn, D. D., of Hillsdale,
:h.

Avery of New Hampshire offered a resolution on
gest of Conference Law, as follows:

Resolved, that the committee on Publishing Minutes be instructed
prepare a digest of the votes of former Conferences still in
e, to be published as an appendix to the Minutes of this Con-
nce.

In the discussion that followed, Summerbell of Maine
retted that he would not be able to serve as sug-
ted, as the labor involved would require more time
n he had at his disposal. On motion the resolution
; referred to the Conference Board with power.

Summerbell of Maine, for the committee on Closing
solutions, presented the report of his committee,
ch was adopted as follows:

Resolved, 1. That the thanks of the Conference be extended to
G. F. Mosher, president, for the able, courteous, and impartial
ner in which he has discharged the duties of his important
e.

That the Conference recognizes the brotherly zeal and in-
gent foresight displayed by Pres. G. S. Burgess of Parker Col-
, and by the Rev. F. N. Spafford, pastor of the Free Baptist
ch of Winnebago, in their arrangements to meet the needs of
session.

That Conference appreciates the friendly spirit shown by
Presbyterian church in opening its house of worship for the

assembling of the Conference, and by the Presbyterian and M
ist churches for their hospitality to our delegates, and for
cordial sympathy shown to the Conference.

4. That the thanks of the Conference be extended to
Lewis Dexter of New Hampshire, and to the members
choirs of the Methodist and Presbyterian churches, for their
ance to the choir of the Free Baptist church in renderin
music of the Conference.

5. That the thanks of the Conference be extended by
vote to the church, and to the citizens of Winnebago City
ally, for the hearty and generous hospitality with which they
welcomed the Conference to their festivities, to their worshi
to their homes.

(Signed.) MARTYN SUMMERBE
S. S. SCHNELL.
A. E. WILSON.
THERA B. TRUE.

On motion of Webb of Maine it was voted that
the Conference adjourns it be to meet, according t
constitution, at a place and date to be fixed by the
ference Board.

The minutes of the evening session were then
and approved, after which prayer was offered by R
Erskine of New Hampshire, the motion to adjourn
offered and carried, and President Mosher declared
Twenty-Ninth General Conference of Free Ba
adjourned.

N. S. PURINTON, *Clerk.*
D. D. MITCHELL, *Asst. Cle*

After the adjournment of the Conference Mrs.
ter of New Hampshire sang a solo, after which Re
Summerbell, D. D., of Maine delivered his lectur
"The Genius of Protestantism."

The benediction was then pronounced, and the
gregation dispersed, well pleased with this delig
Conference and all its precious memories.

After the adjournment of General Conference a report from the Committee on Ministerial Record, of which the Rev. J. D. McColl of Michigan is chairman, was received through the Conference Board. Its information on the decease of ministers has been combined with the report of the committee on Necrology, and its other tables are here inserted.

MINISTERS ORDAINED SINCE THE LAST GENERAL CONFERENCE.

NAMES.	AGE.	DATE.	AUTHORITY.	REMARKS.
L. H. Sprague . .		Nov. 3, 1892	Rensselaer Q. M., N. Y.	Full course in Mission Bible School.
Pellaram Kisku .		Nov. 22, 1832	Bengal & Orissa Y. M.	
J. W. Thompson .	26	Nov., 1892	Hillsdale, Mich. Q. M. .	Student, Hillsdale.
Charles E. Pyde .	46	Jan. 8, 1893	Holton & White River, Mich., Q. M.	
B. H. Ellis . . .	31	Mar. 5, 1833	Athens Q. M.	3 yrs. student at Hillsdale.
Chas. H. True . .		May 28, 1893	Delaware & Clayton, Ia.	
Mattie A. Deets .		May 28, 1893	Little Sioux Valley, Ia.	3 yrs. evangelist.
Everett Tasker .	30	June 2, 1893	Winnebago Q.M., S. Dak.	Parker College.
I. L. Angell . . .		June 15, 1893	Maine Ministers' Conf.	
Roscoe Heine . .		June 22, 1893	Wolfeborough Q. M., N. H.	
Wm. T. Bradeen .		June 28, 1893	Maine Ministers' Conf.	
Geo. H. Hamlen .		June 28, 1893	Maine Ministers' Conf.	
Franklin B. Nelson		June 28, 1893	Maine Ministers' Conf.	
Leonard S. Williams		June 28, 1833	Maine Ministers' Conf.	
Herbert E. Wyman		June 28, 1893	Maine Ministers' Conf.	
Zell Dally		July 2, 1893	Marion Q. M., O.	Pastoral theology and homiletics.
Walter Hancock .	24	July 18, 1893	Union Q. M	
Jacob Rhoad . . .		Aug. 20, 1893	Seneca & Huron, O.	
Herbert Wesley Small		Aug. 28, 1893	Belknap Asso., N. H. .	Grant University
Frank N. Landon	30	Aug., 1893	Sanilac Q. M., Mich. . .	No preparation.
W. P. Johnson . .		Sept. 15, 1893	Dallas Q. M., Texas.	
J. D. Tatum . . .	28	Sept. 24, 1893	Central Y. M., Ill.	
M. Kennedy . . .	35	Sept. 24, 1893	Central Y. M., Ill.	
J. B. Huntley . .		Oct. 25, 1893	Jefferson Q. M., N. Y.	
James Walker . .		Oct. 28, 1893	Johnson Q. M., O.	
R. E. Benjamin .		Feb. 10, 1894	Hillsdale Q. M., Mich.	
M. C. Buswell . .		Feb. 17, 1894	Waupun Q. M., Wis.	
E. C. Hayes . . .		Feb. 20, 1894	Maine Ministers' Conf.	
C. M. Streeter . .		Mar. 18. 1894	Tuscarora Q. M., N. Y.	
Byron Pelton . .		April 4, 1894	Genesee Q. M., Mich.	
C. D. Allen . . .		April 4, 1894	Geauga & Portage Q. M., O.	

NAMES.	AGE.	DATE.	AUTHORITY.	RE
H. W. Holden . .		April 29, 1894	West Virginia Q. M.	
J. A. Redman . .		May 19, 1894	Winchester, Q. M., Va.	
Ira B. Buffum . .		May 27, 1894	Grand Rapids Q. M., Mich.	
Geo. T. Mason . .		June 6, 1894	New Durham Q. M., N. H.	
C. B. Reece . . .		June 7, 1894	Erie Q. M., N. Y.	
H. R. Purinton .		June 13, 1894	Maine F. B. Min's Conf.	Cobb
W. W. Harris . .		June 13, 1894	Maine F. B. Min's Conf.	Cobb
H. A. Huey . . .		June 17, 1894	Salem Q. M., Ind.	
Jesse Amos Baker		June 24, 1894	Jefferson Q. M., N. Y.	
Carrie Heminway		July 1, 1894	French Creek Q. M., N. Y.	
E. J. Tucker . .		Aug., 1894	Ripley Q. M., O.	
Wm. Gray . . .		Sept. 2, 1894	Washington Q. M., Pa.	
L. B. Twichell . .		Sept. 27, 1894	Anson Q. M., Me.	
Eugene Trafton .		Oct. 25, 1894	Maine Association.	
H. E. Wilson . .		1894	New Durham Q. M., N. H.	
Edwin H. Lougher		1894	Hillsdale Q. M., Mich.	
E. W. Kenyon . .		Jan, 17, 1895	Chemung Q. M., N. Y.	
L. S. Shumaker .		Feb. 10, 1895	Troy Q. M., Pa.	
B. D. Remington		April 29, 1895	Rhode Island F. B. Asso.	
Jos. Reason . . .		May 2, 1895	Hagerstown F.B. church, W. Va.	
J. Z. Benson . . .		May 15, 1895	Cedar Valley Q. M., Ia.	
Chas. R. Murphy		May 16, 1895	Cedar Valley Q. M., Ia.	
Thos. Lasley . .		May 25, 1895	Armstrong Q. M., Pa.	
W. H. Haines . .		May 25, 1895	Armstrong Q. M., Pa.	
John Woodyard .		June 1, 1895	Meigs Q. M., O.	
Mrs. Wm. McLatchy		June 2, 1895	Washington Q. M., Pa.	
Geo. Gifford . . .		June 9, 1895	French Creek, N. Y.	
S. S. Mead . . .		June 15, 1895	Union Y. M., N. Y.	
O. R. Newman .		June, 1895	Rochester Q. M., N. Y.	
C. A. Buker . . .		June, 1895	Edgecomb Q. M.	
A. J. Randleman		1895	Looney Springs Q. M.	
John Phillips . .		1895	Looney Springs Q. M.	
Jos. Kelley . . .		July 14, 1895	Chautauqua Q. M., N. Y.	
C. P. Collett . . .		July 21, 1895	Salem Q. M., O.	
C. O. Clark . . .		Aug. 11, 1895	Ohio River Y. M., O.	
Mrs. Ellen Copp .		Aug. 26, 1895	Hillsdale Q. M.	

ACCESSIONS FROM OTHER DENOMINATIONS SINCE THE LAST GENERAL CONFERENCE.

NAMES.	DATE OF RECOGNITION.	DENOMINATION.
J. H. McLaughlin	Nov. 18, 1892	Cumberland Presbyterian.
C. C. Curtis	Feb., 1893	Methodist Episcopal.
W. R. Howell	May, 1893	Methodist Episcopal.
— James	May, 1893	Missionary Baptist.
C. W. Tripp	June 9, 1893	Baptist.
M. A. Preston	Aug., 1893	Church of God.
Simon Williams	Aug., 1893	
James Walker	Sept. 20, 1893	Methodist Episcopal.
— Williams	Nov., 1893	Missionary Baptist.
Henry Brown	1893	Christian.
F. P. Buttrey	Feb. 10, 1894	Baptist.
F. M. Young	Feb., 1894	United Brethren.
P. A. McGee	April 28, 1894	Bible Christian.
S. W. Lindsley	May 26, 1894	Baptist.
W. S. Hathaway	June, 1894	Wesleyan Methodist.
T. B. Miller	Dec., 1894	United Brethren.
J. C. Warren	Feb., 1895	Methodist Episcopal.
Geo. F. Wood	Feb. 3, 1895	Presbyterian.
E. T. Pitts	May, 1895	Congregationalist.

APPENDIX.

CHARTER.

State of Maine.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE.

AN ACT to incorporate the General Conference of Free Baptists.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:

SECTION 1. Oren B. Cheney, George H. Ball, Laura A. DeMeritte, Clarence A. Bickford, Nathan C. Brackett, Emeline S. Burlingame, Amanda M. Pendleton, Ethnan W. Porter, Orin D. Patch, George F. Mosher, John T. Ward, Richard M. Lawrence, Lewis W. Anthony, Ellen A. Copp, Alpheus W. Gates, Rufus Deering, Elizabeth Colley, Arthur Given, J. Burnham Davis, Cyrus H. Latham, DeWitt C. Durgin, Eliza M. Jackson, George A. Gordon, Henry J. Brown, Emily L. Marshall, Oscar E. Baker, Charles S. Perkins, their associates and successors, are hereby constituted a corporation for religious, missionary, educational, and charitable purposes under the name of the General Conference of Free Baptists, and by that name shall have power to prosecute and defend suits at law, to use a common seal and to change the same at pleasure, to take and hold for the objects of said corporation, by gift, grant, bequest, purchase, or otherwise, any estate, real or personal or both, the annual income of which shall not exceed one hundred thousand dollars, and to sell and convey any estate, real or personal or both, which the interests of said corporation may require to be sold and conveyed.

SEC. 2. The said corporation may choose all necessary officers and adopt such a constitution and such by-laws, the same not being repugnant to the constitution and laws of this state, as they may deem expedient for the management of their affairs from time to time; and they shall be and they are hereby invested with all the powers, privileges, rights, and immunities incident to similar corporations.

SEC. 3. The persons named in the first section of this act as members of the said General Conference of Free Baptists shall be members thereof only until the said Conference shall be duly organized under a constitution and by-laws as provided in section two of this act; and from and after the time when the said Conference shall be thus organized the members thereof shall be such persons as may be chosen delegates by the Associations, Yearly Meetings, and other bodies composing the said Conference, and such other persons as the said Conference may designate in the constitution which they may from time to time adopt.

SEC. 4. The said General Conference may appoint a board, to be called the Conference Board and to consist of as many members as the Conference may deem necessary, to whom full power may be delegated to act for and in behalf of the Conference from one meeting of the Conference to another.

SEC. 5. The said General Conference shall hold their stated meetings for the choice of officers and for other purposes in some part of the United States of America. They may hold special meetings in any foreign country. Their officers may be residents of the United States of America or of any foreign country, with the exception of their clerk or recording secretary, who shall always be a citizen of the United States of America.

SEC. 6. The Freewill Baptist Foreign Mission Society, incorporated by an act approved January twenty-nine, eighteen hundred and thirty-three, and amended by an act entitled "An Act additional to An Act to incorporate the Freewill Baptist Foreign Mission Society," approved February nineteen, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, and amended again by an act entitled "An Act to amend the charter of the Freewill Baptist Foreign Mission Society,"

d January twenty-six, eighteen hundred and eighty-three, :by authorized and empowered to transfer and deliver to the neral Conference of Free Baptists all their real and personal r and estate, and all their powers, privileges, rights, and ies, to be held and used by the said Conference for the s mentioned in this act; and upon such transfer and deliv- the powers, privilege , rights, and immunities of the said shall be vested in the said General Conference of Free

7. The Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society, incor- by an act approved January twenty-six, eighteen hundred ty-three, are hereby authorized and empowered to transfer iver to the said General Conference of Free Baptists all l and personal property and estate, and all their powers, s, rights, and immunities, to be held and used by the said nce for the purposes mentioned in this act, and upon such and delivery all the powers, privileges, rights, and immuni- he said society shall be vested in the said Conference.

8. The said General Conference shall have the right to l use for the purposes mentioned in this act all the real and property and estate, and shall be entitled to all the powers, s, rights, and immunities of the Freewill Baptist Home Society, a corporation existing under the laws of the state Hampshire by an act approved June twenty-eight, eighteen and thirty-eight, and amended by an act approved June even, eighteen hundred and fifty-nine, and amended again ct approved July five, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven, r the said society, being duly authorized by the said state Hampshire, shall transfer and deliver the same.

9. The said General Conference shall have the right to l use for the purposes mentioned in this act all the real and property and estate, and shall be entitled to all the powers, s, rights, and immunities of the Freewill Baptist Education a corporation existing under the laws of the state of New ire, by an act approved July seven, eighteen hundred and and amended by an act approved June twenty-nine,

eighteen hundred and seventy, entitled "An Act in amendment of An Act to incorporate the Freewill Baptist Education Society," whenever the said society, being duly authorized by the said state of New Hampshire, shall transfer and deliver the same.

SEC. 10. All property held by the said societies, and all gifts, bequests, devises, and conveyances of property heretofore made to said societies, or which may hereafter be made to them or any of them, shall be held and used by the said Conference for the purpose designated in the making of the several gifts, bequests, devises, and conveyances, and shall be subject to all the conditions, limitations, and uses contained in the several gifts, bequests, devises, and conveyances to said societies.

SEC. 11. Whenever the said societies or any one of them shall transfer their property to the said Conference, the said Conference shall have the right to hold and use for the purposes mentioned in this act the property that may be thus transferred in addition to the sum of personal and real estate authorized to be held in section one of this act.

SEC. 12. If at the time of the transfer and delivery of the real and personal property and estate of the said societies or of any one of them to the said General Conference of Free Baptists, or at any other time, the said societies or any one of them holds any property, gifts, bequests, or devises which are not transferable, said societies or any one of them shall continue to hold and use the property thus held for the purpose designated in making of the gifts, bequests, devises, or conveyances of property thus held.

SEC. 13. It shall not be necessary for more than nine persons mentioned in the first section of this act, as corporators, to constitute a quorum for the acceptance of this act, and the said Conference shall have the right to fix the number to constitute their quorum from time to time, and also to fix the number to constitute the quorum of their Conference Board.

SEC. 14. Oren B. Cheney, George H. Ball, Laura A. DeMeritte Clarence A. Bickford, and Nathan C. Brackett, or any five persons mentioned in the first section of this act, may call the first meetin

of this corporation by giving notice of the time and place in some paper published in this state at least fourteen days before the time of holding said meeting.

SEC. 15. This act shall take effect when approved.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Jan. 19, 1891.

This bill, having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

BENJAMIN F. CHADBOURNE, *Speaker pro tem.*

IN SENATE, Jan. 19, 1891.

This bill, having had two several readings, passed to be enacted.

CHARLES F. LIBBY, *President.*

Approved January 19, 1891.

EDWIN C. BURLEIGH, *Governor.*

STATE OF MAINE,

OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE.

I hereby certify that the paper to which this is attached is a true copy of the original deposited in this office.

In testimony whereof I have caused the seal of the state to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at Augusta this twentieth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one, and in the one hundred and fifteenth year of the independence of the United States of America.

S. J. CHADBOURNE, *Deputy Secretary of State.*

{SEAL}

CONSTITUTION.

[This is the form as finally amended and adopted by the General Conference.]

ARTICLE 1. The General Conference of Free Baptists shall be composed of delegates from the several bodies now composing the General Conference of the Freewill Baptist Connection in North America,* together with the delegates from such other bodies holding an evangelical faith, believing in the divinity of Christ, a general atonement, the necessity of regeneration, the immersion of believers as the only scriptural baptism, and the communion of all Christians, as may be admitted to the Conference by a two-thirds vote at any regular meeting.

* The General Conference of the Freewill Baptist Connection in North America is composed of the following bodies: The New Hampshire Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Maine Free Baptist Association, the Vermont Yearly Meeting of Free Baptists, the Massachusetts Free Baptist Association, the Rhode Island Free Baptist Association, the Connecticut and Western Rhode Island Free Baptist Association, the Holland Purchase Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Genesee Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Susquehanna Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the St. Lawrence Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Union Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the New York Central Free Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Western Pennsylvania Free Baptist Association, the Ohio and Pennsylvania Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Central Ohio Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Ohio Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Ohio River Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Ohio and Kentucky Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the West Virginia Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Indiana Freewill Baptist Association, the Michigan Freewill Baptist Association, the Illinois Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Southern Illinois Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Central Illinois Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Wisconsin Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Minnesota Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Iowa Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Nebraska Yearly Meeting of Free Baptists, the Northern Nebraska Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Northern Kansas Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Southern Kansas Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Golden Gate Free Baptist Association, the Virginia and West Virginia Free Baptist Association, the Kentucky Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Louisiana Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Ontario Free Baptist Association, the Bengal and Orissa Free Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Western Missouri Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Northwestern Missouri Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the South Carolina Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Mississippi Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Prosperity Free Baptist Association, the Denton Creek Freewill Baptist Association, the Mount Moriah Freewill Baptist Association, the North Missouri Freewill Baptist Association, the Pleasant Hill Freewill Baptist Association, the Union Baptist Association, and the Nebraska Central Yearly Meeting, Eastern Pennsylvania Association, and the Southwestern Missouri Yearly Meeting, which were admitted by vote of General Conference, at Winnebago City, October, 1895.

ART. 2. The object of this Conference shall be to devise and execute measures for the extension of the kingdom of Christ in connection with the various bodies herein represented.

ART. 3. This Conference shall have authority to apportion to the Yearly Meetings and Associations a due ratio of the amount necessary to prosecute the denominational work, and to ask contributions from Yearly Meetings or Associations, Quarterly Meetings, churches, and individuals, as occasion may require. Gifts and bequests to the various denominational societies shall become the property of this Conference, and be held in trust for the special objects for which they were given, when these societies, singly or severally, shall transfer their work to the Conference.

It shall have the right to discipline, and if necessary to exclude, any Association, Yearly Meeting, or other body belonging to it; but in no case shall it have power to reserve or change the decisions of churches or Quarterly Meetings.

ART. 4. Each Yearly Meeting or Association belonging to this Conference shall be entitled to representation by one delegate; and every Yearly Meeting or Association whose church communicants amount to one thousand five hundred, to two delegates and one delegate for each additional thousand church-members or major part thereof.

ART. 5. There shall be chosen by ballot from persons in good standing in the denomination, who may or may not be members of the Conference, a Conference Board, to consist of twenty-one members, at least one-third of whom shall be women, to which is hereby delegated full power to act for and in behalf of the Conference from one regular meeting of the Conference to another. The said Board shall have power to choose all needful officers, adopt all rules needful for its own government and to carry out the plans and undertakings of the Conference, make contracts, employ agents, authorize the execution of legal papers, collect and appropriate funds, and exercise all the powers and functions of the General Conference not in conflict with its rules, resolutions, and directions. It shall keep a correct record of all its proceedings, make a full report at each regular session of the Conference, and

be subject to and comply with all directions, requests, and regulations of the Conference. Nine members of this Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. All members of the Conference Board shall be members *ex officio* of the Conference.

ART. 6. The officers of this Conference shall be a president, two vice-presidents, a clerk, an assistant clerk, a treasurer, and an auditor, all to be chosen by ballot, who shall respectively hold office until the next regular Conference and until others shall be chosen and qualified in their stead. The clerk, assistant clerk, treasurer, and auditor may be chosen from persons who are not members of this Conference.

ART. 7. The president shall preside in all meetings of the Conference, and unless it is otherwise ordered, appoint all the committees necessary to be appointed.

One of the vice-presidents shall preside in the absence of the president, and in the absence of both vice-presidents a president *pro tem.* shall be chosen.

The clerk and assistant clerk shall take the required oath of office before a magistrate, keep a true record of the doings of the Conference, and certify that the same is true.

The clerk shall be a resident of the state of Maine, and shall keep a clerk's office in said state in accordance with the laws thereof.

The treasurer shall give bonds satisfactory to the Conference Board, and shall receive and dispose of all moneys paid into the treasury under the direction of the Conference Board, and keep an accurate account of the same, and make a full report quarterly and at such other times as he shall be requested by the Board of the Conference, which report shall be published in at least two of the denominational papers. The treasurer shall be a member *ex officio* of the Conference.

The auditor shall, at least once a year, make a careful examination of the accounts and vouchers of the treasurer, and submit the same to the Conference Board.

ART. 8. The president and treasurer shall sign all deeds, bonds, notes, etc., and other papers by which the Conference is to become legally held.

ART. 9. Vacancies occurring by death, resignation, or otherwise in the delegation of any Association, Yearly Meeting, or other body belonging to the Conference, may be filled by the body in which the vacancy occurs in any way it may elect. Vacancies occurring in the Conference Board, or in any office of the Conference or of the Conference Board, shall be filled by the Conference Board.

ART. 10. A meeting of the General Conference, to be called by the clerk or president, shall be held every third year, in August or September, or at such time and place as the Conference or Conference Board may determine, the time and place being given in some paper published in the state of Maine, and in at least two of the denominational papers, if such exist, at least ninety days before the time of holding said meeting. Special meetings at the direction of the Conference Board may be called in the same way, provided that notice shall be sent to each member of the Conference, post prepaid, directed to their last known address, thirty days before the time of holding such meeting.

ART. 11. Thirty-three members of the Conference shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a less number may call to order and adjourn.

ART. 12. This constitution may be amended at any triennial session by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided such amendment has been proposed in writing at a previous session by a member of the Conference, or proposed in writing at any time by the Conference Board, a Yearly Meeting, or an Association, due notice of the proposed change or changes having been given at least six months beforehand in a paper published in the state of Maine and in not less than two denominational papers if such exist

BY-LAWS.

1. All persons declared by a committee on creden duly elected delegates to the Freewill Baptist General C to meet at Lowell, Mass., Oct. 5, 1892, are hereby made stituted members of this corporation, and authorized, t respects according to the provisions of the charter, consti by-laws under which this Conference is organized.

2. It shall be the duty of every Yearly Meeting, Asso other body belonging to the Conference to send a lett triennial meeting of the Conference, reporting in th spiritual condition, its works of benevolence, and its stat Yearly Meeting, Association, or other body belonging to ference, which shall fail to report itself for two successi may be dismissed from the Conference by a two-thirds v members present.

3. Each meeting of the Conference shall be opened l

4. At each regular session of the Conference the standing committees shall be appointed: The Denomina trine, Church Polity, Education, Sunday-schools, Tempe Country, The Ministry, Publications, Home Missions, West, Foreign Missions, Requests, Correspondence, Y ple's Work, Bible Cause, Finance, Closing Resolutions. the duty of the Finance Committee to assist the treasurer and managing investments, and to make an annual rep condition of the same to the Conference Board. All pe communications on particular subjects shall be referre appropriate committees. Special committees may be ap the pleasure of the Conference.

5. This Conference may correspond by messenger o with other religious bodies.

6. This Conference shall sit with open doors except w go into committee of the whole.

7. Any person not a member of this Conference may be allowed to take part in its discussions by obtaining permission of the Conference.

8. It shall be the duty of all the members of this Conference to be present at the time appointed for each meeting, and any one wishing to retire shall first obtain leave of the chair.

9. No member shall absent himself from Conference during its meetings without first obtaining permission from the Conference.

10. No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of any committee, *provided* the person nominated be elected.

11. The yeas and nays may be taken on any question by request of one-fifth of the members present.

12. No member of this Conference shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes, and but once on the same subject, without permission of the Conference.

13. These by-laws may be amended at any triennial session of the Conference by a two-thirds vote of the members present, and at any subsequent session by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

AN ACT authorizing the Fr
and the Freewill Baptist
property and rights to the G

Be it enacted by the Senate an
eral Court convened:

SECTION 1. The Freewill B
poration created by the laws of
28, 1838, and the Freewill Bap
created by the laws of this st
are hereby authorized and empc
General Conference of Free Ba
legislature of the state of Ma
1891, all their real and person
powers, privileges, and rights t
Conference of Free Baptists, fo
and charitable purposes.

SECT. 2. All property held b
sion Society and said Freewill
gifts, bequests, devises, and co
made to said societies, or eithe
be made to them, or either of th
said General Conference of F

SECT. 3. If at the time of the transfer and delivery of the real and personal property and estate of said societies to said General Conference of Free Baptists either of the said societies holds any property, gifts, bequests, or devises which are not transferable, said societies shall continue to hold and use the property thus held by them respectively for the purpose designated in the making of the gifts, bequests, devises, or conveyances of property thus held.

SECT. 4 This act shall take effect on its passage.

FRANK G. CLARK, *Speaker House of Reps.*
JOHN MCLANE, *Pres. of Senate.*

Approved Feb. 18, 1891.

HIRAM A. TUTTLE, *Governor.*

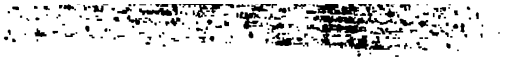
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,
SECRETARY'S OFFICE, CONCORD,
March 2, 1892.

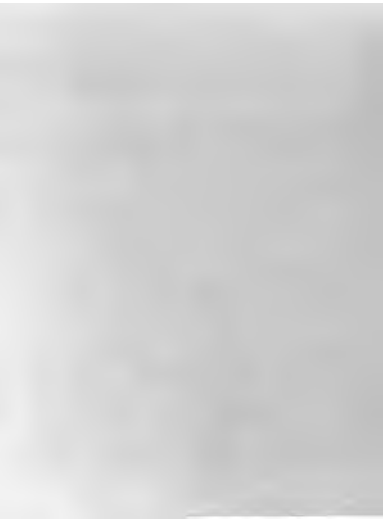
I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original act as filed in this office.

In testimony whereof I hereunto subscribe my official signature and affix the seal of the state.

C. B. RANDLETT, *Deputy Secretary of State.*

{SEAL}





MINUTES

OF THE

Thirtieth

General Conference

OF

FREE BAPTISTS

HELD AT

N PARK, OLD ORCHARD, ME., AUG. 25-31, 1898

BOSTON
1898

General Conferences.

Place.	Time.	Days.	No. of Del'g.	Moderators.	Clerks.
Tunbridge, Vt.	Oct. 11, 1827	4	20	Enoch Place	Hosea Quimby.
Sandwich, N. H.	9, '28	4	35	Nathaniel King	" "
Spafford, N. Y.	10, '29	4	15	Henry Hobbs	J. M. Yearnshaw.
Greenville, R. I.	14, '30	4	15	S. Hutchins	" " "
Wilton, Me.	12, '31	4	14	Benjamin Thorn	Hosea Quimby.
Meredith, N. H.	10, '32	4	21	S. B. Dyer	N. Loring.
Strafford, Vt.	9, '33	6	24	S. Whitney	Hosea Quimby.
Byron, N. Y.	7, '35	7	24	" "	Silas Curtis.
Greenville, R. I.	4, '37	6	25	J. M. Harper	" "
Conneaut, O.	2, '39	5	28	" " "	Wm. Burr.
Topsham, Me.	6, '41	6	41	" " "	Silas Curtis.
Plainfield, N. Y.	2, '44	7	53	J. Woodman	" "
Sutton, Vt.	6, '47	10	51	" "	" "
Providence, R. I.	2, '50	9	52	Martin Cheney	" "
Fairport, N. Y.	5, '53	8	57	F. W. Straight	" "
Maineville, O.	1, '56	8	57	E. Knowlton	" "
Lowell, Mass.	5, '59	8	56	" "	" "
Hillsdale, Mich.	1, '62	8	60	E. B. Fairfield	" "
Lewiston, Me.	4, '65	9	55	" " "	" "
Buffalo, N. Y.	7, '68	8	71	J. O'Donnell	I. D. Stewart.
Hillsdale, Mich.	4, '71	8	71	E. Knowlton	" " "
Providence, R. I.	7, '74	9	73	D. W. C. Durgin	" " "
Fairport, N. Y.	3, '77	8	78	O. B. Cheney	" " "
Weir's, N. H.	July 21, '80	9	84	" " "	" " "
[illegible] Minn.	Oct. 4, '83	5	78	R. Dunn	" " "
	14, '86	7	88	J. L. Phillips	" " "
	[illegible] '89	9	84	O. B. Cheney	G. F. Mosher.
		7	81	J. A. Howe	R. Deering.
			[illegible]	G. F. Mosher	N. S. Purinton.
				[illegible]	" " "

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1908

Officers of the 30th General Conference.

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AUDITOR.

[illegible]L G. WOOD . . . . . Providence, R. I.

Statistical Table of the Thirtieth General Conference, 1898.*

Yearly Meetings and Associations.	Delegates.	Number of Q. Ms.	Number of Churches.	Number of Ministers.†	Number of Members.	Increase.	Decrease.
Conference Board (Members *ex officio*.)	Mrs. Ella H. Andrews, R. I.; Mrs. M. A. W. Bachelder, Mich.; G. C. Chase, Me.; Mrs. E. B. Cheney, Me.; Mrs E. A. Copp, Mich.; Miss L. A. DeMeritte, N. H.; E. O. Dickinson, Iowa; Mrs. L. M. P. Durgin, Minn.; H. M. Ford, Mich.; W. J. Fulton, Ohio; A. Given, R. I.; G. A. Gordon, Ill.; R. D. Lord, N. Y.; G. F. Mosher, Mich.; J. W. Parsons, N. Y.; O. D. Patch, N. H.; E. W. Porter, Mass.; Mrs. T. B. True, Iowa; W. P. Van Wormer, Mich.; J. T. Ward, Mich.; L. M. Webb, Me.						
Arkansas, Eastern, and Western Tenn.‡							
Bengal & Orissa (India)	O. R. Bacheler	2	19	14	447	447	
Cumberland, Tenn.‡		2	14	31	782	114	
Denton Creek, Texas.‡							
Genesee, N. Y.	R. W. Chamberlain	3	21	29	2,601	1,018	
Golden Gate, Cal.		1	3	4	182	5	
Holland Purchase, N. Y.	Z. A. Space, N. C. McKoon	5	31	40	2,254	45	
Illinois	E. H. Turner	3	16	13	554	44	
Illinois, Central	G. P. McBride, T. O. McMinn, A. J. Randleman, M. A. Shepard, J. H. Bagwill	5	54	58	4,024	774	
Illinois, Southern		3	29	47	1,155	. . .	1,696
Indiana	J. W. Rendel, T. J. Mawhorter	5	23	16	1,636	. . .	15
Iowa	J. E. Abramson, J. B. Gidney	6	40	24	1,800	296	
John Wheeler, Tenn.		2	13	9	875	364	
J. S. Manning, Ill.	H. M. Ford	3	34	42	1,800	1,805	
Kansas, Northern		4	8	10	228	. . .	243
Kansas, Southern		2	7	8	398	195	
Kentucky		3	28	36	1,793	326	

	Cullam, H. Knowlton, B. C. Jordan, T. H. Stacy, S. D. Church, Mrs. M. R. Wade, S. C. Whitcomb, J. Nason, E. M. Trafton, S. Wakely, G. L. White.	17	250	163	14,277	482	
Massachusetts	A. L. Gerrish, H. Lockhart, L. W. Gilman	1	15	24	2,891	. . .	243
Michigan	A. T. Salley, R. Dunn, W. A. Myers, D. E. E. Hall, C. H. Myers	16	128	107	6,140	517	
Minnesota	R. M. Lawrence, Mrs. M. C. Stillman	5	40	40	2,050	. . .	15
Mississippi	E. H. Lougher	5	39	83	1,934	112	
Missouri, Northern		3	11	12	712	410	
Missouri, Northwestern‡		2	7	3	147		
Missouri, Southeastern	W. B. Alsbury	2	12	18	705	. . .	102
Missouri, Southwestern		3	15	20	500	85	
Missouri, Western		2	18	30	661	25	
Mt. Moriah, Ala‡		1	11	6	697		
Nebraska		4	17	20	652	. . .	119
Nebraska, Central		2	7	4	116	14	
Nebraska, Northern		3	12	12	241	140	
New Hampshire	J. W. Scribner, J. B. Jordan, A. B. Meservey, J. Manter, W. W. Harris, S. S. Nickerson, C. A. Buker, J. H. Beacham, Mrs. S. C. G. Avery	8	101	101	8,395	183	
New York, Central	N. H. Briggs, G. A. Jackson, J. B. Randall	5	27	25	2,266	98	
New York & Penn.	Mrs. L. C. Griffin, G. H. Ball	5	33	34	1,699	118	
Ohio	A. R. Toothacre	2	10	7	528	. . .	87
Ohio, Central	J. A. Sutton	5	26	17	1,938	277	
Ohio & Penn.	R. R. Kennan, D. W. Gow	5	35	22	2,020	98	
Ohio River	C. O. Clark, H. F. Bolton, Mrs. A. M. Armel	8	60	56	4,323	1,526	
Ohio & Kentucky		3	28	22	1,136	. . .	191
Ontario, Can.		1	4	2	194	. . .	7
Pennsylvania.‡							
Penn., Eastern		1	3	4	151	43	
Penn., Western	S. J. Weed	3	12	13	577	. . .	13
Pleasant Hill, Mo.		1	3	3	138	. . .	605
Prosperity, Mo.		2	7	8	302	. . .	73
Rhode Island	J. H. Roberts, W. E. Dennett, E. P. Metcalf, Miss S. E. Payson, L. B. Stillman	1	37	42	659 4,159	270	
South Carolina		2	10	7	610		

Statistical Table of the Thirtieth General Conference (*Continued*), 1898.*

Yearly Meetings and Associations.	Delegates.	Number of Q. M's	Number of Churches.	Number of Ministers.†	Number of Members.	Increase.	Decrease.
St. Lawrence, N. Y.	Isaac Hyatt	2	12	19	553	. . .	170
Susquehanna, N. Y. & Pa.	J. L. Sanders	3	20	18	713	. . .	5
Texas, Northern ‡		3	18	34	688		
Texas, Western		2	17	27	506	506	
Union, N. Y.	W. C. Byer	2	11	8	725	66	
Union, E. Tenn. ‡							
Union Baptist Asso., Kan. ‡		1	12	10	295		
Vermont	G. C. Waterman, J. B. Holton	4	36	38	1,869	. . .	255
Virginia, W. Va. & Md.	J. C. Newman	2	17	20	1,196	. . .	129
West Virginia		4	40	39	1,259	163	
West Mt. Zion		2	12	16	358	358	
Wisconsin	M. C. Miner, J. J. Hull	4	36	36	1,456	36	
Churches not connected		. . .	9	10	603	18	
Q. M's not connected		5	40	41	1,404	44	
Total, 60	98	205	1,626	1,647	93,180	10,685	3,968

* The basis of this table is the reports furnished General Conference, supplemented by the tables in the *Register* of 1898. † Includes licentiates. ‡ No report.

COMMITTEES.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Bible Cause.—Hyatt of N. Y., Church of Me., Nickerson of N. H.

Church Polity.—Ball of N. Y., Scribner of N. H., Dennett of R. I., Chamberlain of N. Y.

Closing Resolutions.—Waterman of Vt., Sanders of Pa., Mrs. Stillman of Minn.

Correspondence.—Mrs. Avery of N. H., Weed of Pa., Beacham of N. H., Randall of N. Y.

The Country.—Meservey of N. H., Holton of Vt., Sutton of O.

Denomination.—Jordan of N. H., Whitcomb of Me., Lockhart of Mass., Myers, C. H., of Mich., Toothacre of O.

Doctrine.—Hayes of Me., Roberts of R. I., Myers, W. A., of Mich.

Education.—Salley of Mich., Anthony of Me., Harris of N. H., Space of N. Y.

Finance.—Knowlton of Me., Stillman of R. I., Bolton of O., Brown of Me., McKoon of N. Y.

Foreign Missions.—Stacy of Me., Mrs. Griffin of N. Y., Bachelor of India, Miner of Wis., Mrs. Armel of O.

Home Missions.—Gerrish of Mass., Bagwill of Ill., Mrs. Wade of Me., Hall of Mich.

The Ministry.—Dunn of Mich., Newman of Md., Lougher of Mich., Rendel of Ind.

The New West.—Hull of Wis., Gow of Pa., Gidney of Ia., Lawrence of Minn.

Publications.—Lawrence of Minn., White of Me., Byer of N. Y.

Requests.—Kennan of O., Wakely of Me., Buker of N. H., Clark of O.

Sunday Schools.—Jordan of Me., Miss Payson of R. I., Mrs. Fullam of Me.

Temperance.—Abramson of Ia., Trafton of Me., Manter of N. H., Gilman of Mass.

Young People's Work.—Metcalf of R. I., Nason of Me., Jackson of N. Y., Mawhorter of Ind.

RETAINED COMMITTEES.

*Conference Board.**—Mrs. S. C. G. Avery of N. H., Rev. N. C. Brackett, Ph. D., of W. Va., Pres. G. C. Chase, D. D., LL. D., of Me., Mrs. E. B. Cheney of Me., Rev. Ellen A. Copp of Mich., Miss L. A. DeMeritte of N. H., Rev. E. O. Dickinson, D. D., of Ia., Mrs. L. M. P. Durgin of Minn., A. L. Freeman of Mass., Rev. H. M. Ford of Mich., Rev. W. J. Fulton of O., Rev. A. Given, D. D., of R. I., Rev. G. A. Gordon of Ill., Mrs. L. C. Griffin of N. Y., Rev. J. J. Hull of Wis., Pres. R. M. Lawrence of Minn., Rev. R. D. Lord, D. D., of N. Y., Hon. E. P. Metcalf of R. I., Rev. O. D. Patch of N. H., Mrs. T. B. True of Ia., L. M. Webb, Esq., of Me.

Ministerial Record.—A. L. Freeman of Mass., Pres. G. H. Ball, D. D., of N. Y., Pres. G. F. Mosher, LL. D., of Mich.

Publishing Minutes.—N. S. Purinton and A. W. Anthony of Maine.

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* *Officers of Conference Board.*—President, Rev. R. D. Lord, D. D., 232 Keap St., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Vice-President, Mrs. L. M. P. Durgin, Winnebago City, Minn.; Recording Secretary, Rev. H. M. Ford, Hillsdale, Mich.; Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer, Rev. A. Given, D. D., Auburn, R. I.; Field Secretary, Rev. H. M. Ford, Hillsdale, Mich.

PROGRAM.

, Aug. 24.—8.30 A. M. Meeting of Executive Com-neral Conference Board. Chapel. 10.00 A. M. Meet-rence Board. Chapel.

Aug. 25.—8.00 A. M. Devotional, seeking God's i the work of the Conference. Temple. Rev. T. H. . 10.30 A. M. General Conference called. Appoint-mittee on credentials. Temple. 11.00 A. M. Con-ion, Rev. C. E. Cate, R. I. 11.45 A. M. Report of i credentials. Organization and appointment of com-0 P. M. Report of Conference Board. Report of eport of Field Secretary. Reports of standing com-0 P. M. Opening praise service. 7.45 P. M. Educa-ur Educational Institutions Twenty-five Years Ago ' Hon. G. F. Mosher, LL. D., Hillsdale College. 2. Schools Owe to the Community," Pres. R. M. Law-Parker College. 3. "What the Community Owes to —the Debt of Wealth," Prof. L. G. Jordan, Ph. D., :.

ug. 26.—8.00 A. M. Devotional, Rev. E. O. Dickin-9.00 A. M. Meeting of Conference. Temple. Re-sponding messengers. Reception of messengers from Business. 2.00 P. M. Report of publisher of *Morn-*eport of publisher of *Free Baptist.* Reports of com-siness. 3.30 P. M. Discussion: "Relation of State s to Denominational Interests." Five-minute speeches, / Rev. George H. Ball, D. D., Keuka College. Busi-. M. Praise service. 7.45 P. M. Home Missions: 1. esults of Our Home Mission Work Hitherto," Prof. ny, Cobb Divinity School. 2. "Home Mission Fields

Mrs. Mary G. Osgood, Mrs. A.
Mrs. F. S. Mosher, Rev. Lizzie A
Business. 7.30 P. M. Praise se
sions: 1. "The Condition of the
tered India," Mrs. L. M. P. Dur
of the Hour in India," Mrs. Z.
other missionaries.

Sunday, Aug. 28.—9.30 A. M.
ney, Mass. 10.30 A. M. Sermon,
tor *Morning Star*. Communion
mittee on Necrology, Rev. A. E.
Life East and West," conducted
Maine, and Rev. R. Dunn, D. D.,
Bacheler, Mrs. Mary R. Wade, Re
East; Rev. N. W. Bixby, Rev. Ar
Rev. T. H. Drake—West. Ordins
Osgood. 7.30 P. M. Young peopl
H. S. Myers, General Secretary.
Salley, D. D., Hillsdale College.
of Grand Bassa, Africa.

Monday, Aug. [illegible]

Business. 4.00 P. M. Discussion: "Ministerial Qualifications." Conducted by Rev. J. A. Howe, D. D., Cobb Divinity School. Five-minute speeches. 7.00 P. M. Social. 7.45 P. M. Discussion: "The Working Church." 1. "The Church in the Country," Rev. Ellen A. Copp, Hillsdale College. 2. "The Practical Work of the Church in the City," Rev. W. J. Twort, Mass.

Wednesday, Aug. 31.—8.00 A. M. Devotional. Miss I. H. Fullonton, Maine. 9.00 A. M. Business. Wednesday afternoon there will be an opportunity for a trip to Portland and sail down the harbor, or for some other steamboat excursion. 7.30 P. M. Vespers. Special music. 8.00 P. M. Discussion, "The Bible": 1. "The Bible in Daily Life," Rev. L. Malvern, Maine. 2. "The Bible in College and School," Rev. E. C. Hayes, Keuka College.

"*God be with you till we meet again.*"

GEORGE C. CHASE,
E. W. PORTER.
M. AUGUSTA W. BACHELDER,
} *Committee on Program.*

NOTE.—There will be special music during the session, with Mrs. Decter, Mrs. Buzzell, and the Misses Aageson, soloists, assisted by a quartet.

MINUTES.

OCEAN PARK, OLD ORCHARD, ME., Thursday, Aug. 25, 1898.

The thirtieth session of the General Conference of Free Baptists assembled at the Temple, Ocean Park, Old Orchard, Me., and was called to order at 10.30 A. M. by the president, Hon. G. F. Mosher, LL. D., of Hillsdale, Michigan.

In the devotional service the singing was under the direction of Rev. E. P. Moulton of Massachusetts; scripture reading by Rev. J. W. Parsons, D. D., of New York; and prayer by Rev. R. Dunn, D. D., of Michigan.

On motion of Webb of Maine a committee on Credentials was appointed by the chair as follows: Ball of New York, Jordan of New Hampshire, Ward of Michigan, Lawrence of Minnesota, Fulton of Ohio.

The official call of the Conference was then read by Hon. N. S. Purinton, the clerk, as follows:

MEETING OF GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The regular triennial session of the General Conference of Free Baptists will be held in the Temple at Ocean Park, Old Orchard, in the County of York and State of Maine, on Thursday, Aug. 25, 1898, at 10.30 A. M., for the following purposes, viz.:

First.—To choose all officers required by the Constitution and By-Laws, and such other officers as may be deemed necessary to carry out the wishes of the Conference.

Second.—To take any action that may be regarded necessary t carry out the purposes and plans of the Conference.

Third.—To see what action the General Conference will tak in regard to the amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws notice of which has been heretofore given as required.

Fourth.—To see what action the Conference will take in refer ence to making legal any previous meeting or action of the Con ference.

Dated at Clerk's Office, West Bowdoin, Me., May 6, 1898.

N. S. PURINTON, *Clerk of Gen. Conf.*

CERTIFICATE OF NOTICE.

This is to certify that I have published the foregoing notice o the time and place of meeting of the General Conference of Fre Baptists in *The Morning Star* and *The Free Baptist*, two denom inational papers, also in *The Kennebec Journal*, a paper publishe at Augusta in the County of Kennebec and State of Maine, ninet days before the meeting of said General Conference, the same bein the legal notice required. (See Constitution, Art. 10).

Dated at West Bowdoin, Me., this 23rd day of August, A. D. 1898. N. S. PURINTON, *Clerk of Gen. Conf.*

The clerk reported notices of the following propose amendments to the Constitution:

NOTICE.

At Winnebago City, Minn., Oct. 3, 1895, at the session of Gen eral Conference, Rufus Deering of Maine offered in writing th following notice:

I propose the following amendments to Art. 4 of the consti tution:

In the third line amend by inserting the word "resident" afte the word "whose."

In the fifth line amend by inserting the word "resident" afte the word "thousand."

Also by adding to sai l article the words "said membership t be taken from the last *Register*," so that the said Art. 4 amende shall read as follows:

"Art. 4. Each Yearly Meeting or Association belonging to this Conference shall be entitled to representation by one delegate, and every Yearly Meeting or Association whose resident church communicants amount to one thousand five hundred to two delegates, and one delegate for such additional thousand resident church-members or major part thereof, said membership to be taken from the last issue of the *Free Baptist Register and Year Book*."

The following amendments to the constitution have been proposed in writing by the Conference Board:

Amend Art. 5 of the constitution by reducing the number of Conference Board.

Also by adding to Art. 5, after the word "another" in the sixth line, the following: "At the election in 1898 a majority of said Board shall be elected for four years, and the remainder for seven years, or until the first meeting of their successors."

At each subsequent meeting of the Conference the successors of those members whose term expires the succeeding year shall be elected for six years from the time they enter upon the discharge of their duties, which shall be at the annual meeting of the Board in the year succeeding that of their election.

Amend Art. 6 by adding after the word "treasurer" in the second line the words "corresponding secretary."

Amend Art. 8 by adding "the treasurer may release any mortgage which has been paid in full."

Amend Art. 3 of the Constitution by striking out the last sentence of said article, viz.: "but in no case shall it have power to reverse or change the decision of churches or Quarterly Meetings," or by adding to the said sentence the following, viz.: "pertaining to its own government as provided in Art. 1, section 4, page 5 of Usages of 1871."

Art. 1. After "Free Will Baptist Connection in North America," by addition of "from Yearly Meeting and Association societies of women aiding in the home and foreign mission and educational work of said General Conference of Free Baptists, and from the Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society." So that Art. 1 shall read, "The General Conference of Free Baptists shall be composed of delegates from the several bodies now composing the

major part thereof," by addition
Association society of women sha
one woman delegate, and the Fr
Society by one delegate for each
that Art. 4 shall read, "Each Ye
longing to this Conference shall
one delegate, and every Yearly
church communicants amount to o
delegates, and one delegate for e
members or major part thereof, an
ciation society auxiliary to this Con
resentation by one woman delegate,
Missionary Society by one delegat
members."

Art. 6. After "an assistant cler
secretary nominated by the Free Ba
ciety." So that Art. 6 shall read, "
shall be a president, two vice-preside
a general secretary nominated by th
sionary Society, a treasurer," etc.

After Art. 6. By the addition o
"The general secretary and treasur
president of the Free Baptist Woma
ex-officio

home reports. Through this secretary the Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society may convey suggestions and plans regarding Yearly Meeting or Association auxiliaries and children's work for the consideration and action of this Conference or its Board."

A true copy. Attest: N. S. PURINTON, *Clerk of Gen. Conf.*
Dated at clerk's office, West Bowdoin, Me., Feb. 1, 1898.

CERTIFICATE OF NOTICE.

This certifies that I have published the foregoing notice of proposed amendments to the Constitution of General Conference of Free Baptists in *The Morning Star* and *The Free Baptist*, two denominational papers, also in *The Kennebec Journal*, a paper published in the State of Maine, six months before the time of meeting of said General Conference, as provided in article 12 of the Constitution, the same being the legal notice required.

Dated at West Bowdoin, Me., this 23d day of August, A. D., 1898. N. S. PURINTON, *Clerk of Gen. Conf.*

The chair appointed as committee on Seating Delegates: Knowlton of Maine, Metcalf of Rhode Island, Waterman of Vermont.

The Conference Sermon was now delivered by Rev. C. E. Cate of the Roger Williams Free Baptist church, Providence, R. I.

On motion of Webb of Maine it was voted that, when we adjourn, it be to two o'clock this afternoon.

Prayer was offered by Rev. C. F. Penney, D. D., of Maine.

Voted to adjourn.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Pursuant to adjournment Conference assembled at two o'clock, President Mosher in the chair.

ence be taken. The chair appo
hart of Massachusetts, Hull of \
of New York.

On motion of Knowlton of Mai
tellers be authorized to receive an

The tellers reported: Whole
necessary for a choice 39; Ford
of Me., 1; Salley of Mich., 1;
Gordon of Ill., 1; Penney of Me.
Chase of Me., 11; Webb of Me.,
16; Lord of N. Y., 23.

On motion of Webb of Maine
prove the records of the 29th ses
ference.

On motion of Waterman of Ve
proceed to the election of presider

A ballot was taken and the teller
Whole number of votes 80; ne

The newly elected president was introduced to the Conference and entered upon the duties of his office.

On motion of Webb of Maine it was voted that the chair appoint a committee to nominate the remaining officers of the Conference. The president appointed Porter of Massachusetts, Dickinson of Iowa, Mrs. Cheney of Maine, Chase of Maine, and Stacy of Maine.

The committee on Seating Delegates made a report, which was accepted; and delegates took their seats according to assignment.

On motion of Waterman of Vermont it was voted to adopt, subject to necessary changes, the program of exercises and proceedings as presented by a committee of Conference Board.

The report of Conference Board was submitted and read by its recording secretary, Rev. H. M. Ford of Michigan. The report was as follows:

As recording secretary I can give only an epitome of the business done by the Board during the three years past, since the records of the different meetings cover one hundred and sixty pages of the minutes.

There have been three meetings of the full Board since the Conference of '95 closed, counting the one at Winnebago City, Minn., the second at Ocean Park, August, '96, and the third at Keuka College, August of last year. Moreover we held a meeting here, Aug. 24, to finish up the business of the old Board.

There have been four Executive Committee meetings, all held at the *Star* office in midwinter of each year; viz., '96, '97, and '98, except one in May, '96; and all the business transacted has been indorsed by the full Board.

The Board meetings and Executive Committee meetings have been fully attended, as a rule, with the exception that one was ab-

...ering, and his conservative and
ble. He had a watchful eye to the
ness habits and business views whicl
of the Board, and his death brougl
but actual loss.

There has been a noticeable harm
and of view in the Board ever since
all that the Board has done has be
has been concealed. To make knc
policy, with this exception: whenever
ter of individuals or churches were
Board it was not thought proper
books lie open to any one who may w

The officers elected at Winnebago
two exceptions. Mrs. Cheney and E
on the Executive Committee, on a
homes and consequent inability to l
Ella Andrews and J. T. Ward have
pacity for the last year. Furtherm
August, 1896, was elected a member
unexpired term of Rufus Deering de
Buffalo was elected at the same time
G. A. Burgess resigned.

Without entering upon any eulogy

trength to promote the interests of the denomination.
come up to their meetings, buckled down to hard work
ate until the work was done, and gone again without
take in the sights of the town. And I don't know of
anxious for re-election.

t of the report which now follows is a selection of the
rtant motions passed by the Board for the last three
ey are not classified, but given in chronological order as
ly occurred, and in the actual language for the most part.
s of business.

ons passed.

iittees during this time have been appointed for work.

owing were passed by the Board the day following the
nference at Winnebago:

finance report referred to the Board by General Confer-
dopted as follows: "That a finance committee of three
whose duty it shall be to oversee all investments, and
ent shall be made except with the approval of this finan-
ttee."

f the same report, which placed in nomination L. M.
am Knowlton, and Daniel G. Wood, being also referred.
:d. Upon notification of his election Daniel G. Wood
nd at the next Executive Committee meeting H. R.
Georgiaville was elected.

owing, being also referred by the General Conference,
: "That the committee on publishing minutes be in-
make a digest of the votes of former Conferences now
be published as an appendix to the Minutes of General
."

iat one half day should be given at each association or
ing and quarterly meeting session to hear reports, pa-
ddresses relating to the plans of the Conference Board
ion with missionary, educational, Sunday-school, and
volent work." (Accordingly a committee was appoint-
lrafted a program and had it published in the papers.)

olishing House was requested to supply biblical cards
for general use.

quarterly meetings, and churches wa
ministers' manual, with the request
tions be provided. (Later it was vot
manual, and hence nothing came of

The finance committee was instruc
tions concerning the transfer to G
property, educational institutions, and

It was earnestly recommended that
yearly meetings, or associations, or qu
take one or both denominational pap
selection of officers this be taken into

Voted to send Bro. Stiles to India f

L. M. Webb, L. A. DeMeritte, and
draw up such amendments to Genera
are necessary and present at next Boar

Voted to make the Executive Cor
committee.

Voted to recommend to the church
the apportionment, and to accept one
minimum to be paid.

The matter of arranging with W. I
agent for Kansas and Nebraska was le
ing of Ford, Burgess, and Given, with p
elaborate details I may say, that, after

Voted that the field secretary hold an institute in Cairo for the colored people.

A proposed school in the Cairo Mission and one in Missouri were placed in the hands of committees for investigation. (And the subsequent reports did not consider the time auspicious for starting said schools now.)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, JUNE 28, 1896.

Official indorsement given to the western relief work, Miss Salmon of Hillsdale chairman. (I may say this relief committee has performed a splendid service to needy people in the west, especially to our own people, 117 barrels distributed in two years, and $300.)

State agents invited to be present at our Board meetings for consultation.

Voted that all unspecified home mission sums coming into the treasury shall be appropriated as the Board thinks proper.

An evening given to the discussion of our Boston church.

Voted Dr. Given be present at the hearing in New York concerning the church bond and to guard the property.

A committee was appointed to represent the Board in the New York church matter.

Green Mountain Seminary considered, and offered to the present corps of teachers, to be run without expense to the denomination.

The following resolution was passed: "Whereas many hundreds of dollars have been invested in the Lincoln, Neb., church, *Resolved*, That an appeal be made to the board of Nebraska Yearly Meeting to release their trusteeship of the Lincoln property should the said church consent to deed it to the General Conference of Free Baptists."

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MAY 21, '96.

This committee was called to consider the foreign mission budget. Twelve items in the budget were considered, and can be read if called for.

The members of the Correspondence school were made the committee to formulate a three years' course required by the last General Conference.

The report of the committee on tro
made and is briefly as follows:

1. Mr. Peden continues his oppositi
is misleading brethren and churches as t
our organization under our present const

2. That the Peden Conference held
ber, 1895, was very small, no ministers
and only the neighbors in the immedi
the only business transacted was to ad
Chapel, Nashville, Tenn.

3. That the small following Mr. Peden
and that all southern Ohio is substantiall
Conference.

Pres. J. M. Davis was elected on the
school.

The official course of study was adop
dered with Arts. 2, 3, 4, on page 69, and
ference Minutes, to be put into the hand
ing clerk, also the ministers and clerks o
associations.

Voted that a sufficient stock of all bool

Voted W. P. Van Wormer be continued agent of Kansas and Nebraska.

The treasurer's bonds fixed at $10,000.

The matter of a short history of the denomination considered and put into hands of a committee.

Voted that we propose to the Church of God that they occupy the Ghatal subdivision of our field as soon as their missionaries and funds are ready for such independent work.

The policy was again authorized that no new enterprise shall be started where help from the denomination is expected without consulting the denomination through its Board.

SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE BOARD.

For better information it was voted to distinguish colored churches, quarterly meetings, and yearly meetings in the *Register* by a double star.

(Fifteen pages of the minutes follow, taken up with the treasurer's, secretary's, field secretary's, western agent's, finance committee's, relief committee's, and mission reports.)

The young people asked to take charge of a table of our denominational literature at each of our yearly meetings and association gatherings.

The new name of the young people was indorsed.

A place was granted them on the program of General Conference.

The following resolution was passed:

"*Resolved*, That the Conference Board recommends to our churches that they observe the last Sunday in January as a day of prayer for our various denominational interests, such as our schools and colleges, our publications, and our home and foreign missions, and that our young people's societies be requested to make these special days' interests the special topic for devotional meetings held on that day."

Voted to recognize the second Sunday in June as Children's Day, making it a denominational day.

Voted that at the expiration of the present treasurer's bond only $5,000 be required, instead of $10,000.

suitable man and his wife for the India field, with a view
speedy sending.

We advise in the request coming from the Church of G
Dr. Given, with the concurrence and assistance of the Ind
mittee, sell them the mission property of Contai; or, if th
not be done, then set aside the subdivision of Ghatal.

The publisher of the *Register* was requested to insert
of the Freewill Baptist Associations in the South and
Brunswick and Nova Scotia in the *Register* under the
"Bodies Not Connected with General Conference."

Policy was reaffirmed of giving any considerable aid to c
only on condition that their property be legally secured
denomination. That all appropriations of $100 or more
regarded as coming under this provision, and that our fiel
tary explain again through the denominational papers the
of this action.

Recommended that one day be designated to be known
nominational Anniversary day, to be observed by all our c
in exercises setting forth our history, our doctrines, our
work, information touching our schools and publications, c
sions home and foreign, with prayer for divine guidance a
cess in all our denominational work.

Dr. Ball was asked to prepare for publication a tract o
tism." Dr. Howe on "Communion." Dr. Penney on "

Rev. O. D. Patch, Mrs. E. H. Andrews, and Dr. Howe were appointed a committee on the question of starting a mission in Africa.

"*Resolved*, That when the denomination gives any considerable sum not less than $100 to any church for the purpose of sustaining preaching the Board has the right to advise in regard to the pastor whenever there is any question as to his fitness for the place."

The yearly apportionment ordered sent directly to the individual church and also to the yearly meeting and quarterly meeting clerks shall not include the amount asked for by the Women's Society.

Voted that we express a strong desire in our greeting to the Free Christian Baptists of New Brunswick and Free Baptists of Nova Scotia, that they may yet become an organic part of the General Conference of Free Baptists, as delegated bodies on the same basis of representation as other delegated bodies are represented.

Such a report as this is very far from satisfactory, not because it is short, but because it fails to tell but a small part of what has been done, and necessarily leaves out the discussion of a hundred questions concerning home and foreign missions, the reports of committees, and the routine work of the Board. In the gleaning of a single item a number of pages have to be looked over, and it is difficult then to tell which is most important.

The book of records is here, and can be examined by any one who may so desire.

Very respectfully submitted in behalf of the Board,

H. M. FORD, *Recording Secretary.*

The Committee on Nomination of Officers reported as follows: First vice-president, Hon. J. B. Holton of Vermont; second vice-president, Mrs. L. M. P. Durgin of Minnesota; clerk, Hon. N. S. Purinton of Maine; first assistant clerk, Rev. Ellen A. Copp of Michigan; second assistant clerk, Hon. E. P. Metcalf of Rhode Island; treasurer, Rev. A. Given, D. D., of Rhode Island; auditor, D. G. Wood of Rhode Island.

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assistant clerks by L. M. V
Portland, Me.

On request of the Financ
Board the report of the Trea
morning.

The report of the Field S
was now submitted, and on
ordered to be placed on t
follows:

I am now closing my fourth year
enth of agency work, and am learnir
an agent or a secretary is not a c
disorders. When such an office is firs
to fill it, it is quite natural to fancy h
is going to be filled and every exig
met, all troubles cleared away as by
forces harmoniously hitched up toget
made

he must often stand appalled and undecided. But, after all is said, the large expectations of the denomination with reference to this office should not, and need not, be disappointing.

The field secretary's work is to traverse the wide field and see to it that the will and plans of General Conference and its Board are carried out, not by forcing these on the churches, but by suggestion and persuasion seek for unity and co-operation. He is to traverse the field, in the second place, to secure if possible information regarding the needs of the field. He is to traverse the field in order to lend a hand at saving churches, raising debts, organizing churches, securing money, locating ministers and missionaries; to distribute information, collect facts, arouse enthusiasm, inspire hope; to get a yearly meeting waked up to the wider purposes of God; to push some young men into the ministry, and if possible to prevent some from getting in (the latter is about as necessary as the former). These are a few of the things the secretary will be called upon to do.

During the three years since last General Conference I have journeyed nearly 49,000 miles directly and solely in the interests of the denomination. So far as localities are concerned I have tried to be impartial and go where I felt I was most needed. My policy has been to stay around no longer than I was needed and hasten to some other point. A continual embarrassment has been the unsystematic arrangement of the time of our yearly meetings and associations. A number of yearly meetings in New York come the same days; and in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Illinois the same days as those in New York. Iowa Yearly Meeting and the young people's meeting come the same time. Massachusetts and Rhode Island and the New England states come all the way from April to October, so that an agent must make several trips, or leave some of them out, or stay from early spring to October.

During the last three years I have been twice each in New England, the Central Association, the Shenandoah valley; three times in the Cairo mission; twice each in the south, southwest, and northwest, and three times in the west; twice in the Indiana and Michigan Associations, and once in the Ohio State Association. Besides I have attended the annual meeting of the Gen-

... the year have been taken up i
the plans of the General Confere

I conclude that this General C
it had it would not care to hear al
it to say that at the gatherings
spoken once or twice upon those
sary to emphasize, and have brou
in their business meetings for disc
apportionment, the four mission d
and ordination, deeding church p
and colleges, beneficiary aid, youn

THE FIELD AN

It will doubtless seem to many
to come down east and tell New
matter with New England, but stra
not noticed by eyes accustomed to

This world-phenomenon of cou
noticeable here in New Englan
Strong says that, and states in his
Century City," that the oldest cities
creased in population during the pr
at my command, but presume I am
portant city in New England that

promise of success, and missions established, than in the New England cities. Here where other Free Baptist churches are close by, here where we had our glorious birth and where every city sees an influx of Free Baptist young people from some of the up-country churches, here where the atmosphere is such that it is easy to get religion and as easy to keep what little one gets, it seems to one—who, to be sure, does not see all the difficulties—as though this is the Eden for Free Baptist aggression.

We are glad to note that much is being done in this very direction. A number of such interests have been planted during the last decade. The secretary of Massachusetts Association wrote me that the association had built eight churches in a comparatively short time. And it may be an interesting fact, especially for our western delegates, to know that we have nine churches in and around Boston, eight in and around Providence, and four in Lowell.

HARPER'S FERRY MISSION.

So far as past achievements indicate Storer college was planted by the will of God and is the result of prevailing prayer and Christian enterprise. One has only to linger there a short time, go through a week of commencement, to realize that that institution is doing a glorious, a far-reaching work, impossible of estimate for the colored race. All over that superb valley you find teachers and preachers taking high rank and having great influence who are Storer alumni. That college should suffer no indifference from us. How many opportunities, brethren, we have of being made happy by serving such causes as this!

I am glad to report that there is a persistent and measurably successful attempt to enlarge the work in this mission. Bro. Newman with the experienced advice of Prof. Brackett has since our last General Conference organized a church at Hagerstown, Md., a stirring city of about 20,000 population and growing fast. A fine church building is going up and will probably be inclosed this fall, substantially free from debt. This is a most promising point. Bro. Belt for four years has been holding on and pounding away in the city of Baltimore; his church has risen to a membership of about three hundred, and his work is taking on a more permanent

surrounding it.

But a few brethren in the valley turbed, and disturb others, because vested in the General Conference. T as "foreign domination." If has ren that if the property there now h could be turned over to the fostering Virginia Association these troubles simply state this fact, but have no r offer.

THE CAIRO M

Let us pass on to the brethren of t orphaned people since Father Man them. A great need—and I remembe years ago—a great need, and one mor of a wise missionary among them. N is in sight, but the money would bring possibly bring the money. If we sav wasting away, and if we build up as t we must have a missionary. There is entering into possession of the whol miles about Cairo.

For three years we have held an

I have visited the General Association of the south twice, and the Cumberland Association twice, and the Western Division of the Stone Association once. These white Freewill Baptists of the south spring from a different denominational ancestry than the Free Baptists of the north. There are between forty and fifty thousand of them. They are true to Free Baptist instincts, but uneducated, unsystematic, and not well organized. They live in the country, and are poor, simple, hospitable, happy, religious, emotional, virtuous, but not generally enterprising in carrying on religious work. They have no missions, no colleges, and no representative publications. Their native ability is marked, their capacity for religious enjoyment marvelous. The ordinary northerner cannot attain to it nor properly appreciate it. It does not show itself in noise so much as in quiet rapture. The face dilates and takes on a seraphic look, the voice changes, and the singing is indescribable. These people believe intensely what they believe, and are tenacious especially of footwashing. There is no subject they are so sensitive of as that. A minister might be under suspicion for imbibing too freely and still be a good and hopeful subject for redemption, but if he holds views derogatory to footwashing he is summarily dealt with and looked upon pretty much as a heathen man and a publican. When I said before an audience of five hundred or more that in matters of religion we in the north cared no more for the color of a man's skin than we did for the color of his eyes, and if a converted colored man or woman wanted to join any of our churches we would be glad to have them come, I could not see that it affected the audience in the least, but when they asked me point-blank if we practised footwashing, and I replied "No," you should have seen the look of disappointment. This was more marked in my second visit than my first, and when I sought to introduce our publications, the *Star* and *Free Baptist*, the only objection they advanced was that these papers did not advocate that doctrine. Otherwise they are identical with us in both polity and doctrine.

These brethren are organizing among themselves and are growing, and I can hardly see what advantage there can be to us to unite organically with them now. Should we unite, the color ques-

... made, but leaves it ...

This Southern General Association attempt to unite the various associa Its success is not assured, owing to t so but few associations can get toget is indifference on part of some and p part of others. If this attempt fails Virginia, and North Carolina Freewill join the General Conference. That closer and more fraternal relations wi able. If they could be induced to ur ence as other bodies have done, an name, their footwashing, and all their trying to reform them in these things but encourage them to broader views, for them and they might be a blessing

Bro. Gordon and myself were most w and had all the courtesies paid us tha moderately when I say they have a ver different idea of northern Free Baptist gan to visit them. The General Assc Prof. J. W. Lucas of Midway Academy ciation appointed Rev. Mr. Binkley, ps will Baptist church, as delegates to this Lucas had made all ...

I suppose our mission here in this world is to help lift up our fellow men when and where we can, and I know of no better opportunity than the one these southern brethren present to us. We could do them a great deal of good. Bro. Lucas is endeavoring to make his academy one especially helpful to any Free Baptist young people who may want to prepare for the ministry. He labors under many difficulties and needs our moral support and sympathy.

THE WEST.

Bro. Van Wormer, our western agent, and Bro. Hull are both here to speak in eloquent terms for the west, and I only need to preface a word.

The great objection to the west is its vastness. When you think of a lake-bed set down between Chicago and the Rocky mountains one thousand miles in extent any way you may reckon it, and then know there are a thousand miles beyond before you reach the coast, its greatness begins to be apparent. From Chicago west, northwest, and southwest we have many churches, but the things they have suffered for the last few years I have not the heart to stand here and tell, but they have suffered and are suffering today more than the denomination knows. The hard times, the successive drouths, the moving on of members, the coming in of foreigners, the starving out and driving out of pastors by the necessary cutting down of salaries have taxed the very existence of these churches west. But few new ones have been planted for five years; it would have been folly to have tried. There has been a life and death struggle to keep together and keep alive what we already have there. But with fine crops and good prices the temporary paralysis is, we trust, nearly over. We have made appropriations to a number of these struggling interests and must continue to do so for a while or lose them altogether.

I take great pleasure in noting the efficient and faithful work done by our western agent, Bro. Van Wormer. He is every inch an agent, a good preacher, a wise and careful counselor, thoroughly loyal, with an open eye to the whole denominational work. It is a matter of very great sacrifice to give him up. But while on his way fifty miles overland in southern Kansas, looking after the work, he was the victim of a runaway that has almost completely done him

let us place two. We can
that ought alone to support a h
could do it, and single individua
could feel it their great privilege
souri and Arkansas need one.
The Dakotas need one. The S
wish to emphasize home missio
the foreign missionary, and I'm g
in your mind, and so he is actu
him less, but no foreign missiona
to work under greater difficulties,
perience more exhaustion, to wr
lems than a western missionary.
only three cents a member for act
appalling want of appreciation of
portunities here at home to sprea
we may feel a shame that shall n
finger-tips. I was glad enough t
said last night that they stood rea
put a home missionary in the fie
when a brother said he too wo
dollars to put a home missionary i
dollars, and a host ought to be f
dollars each to start up the home

case. Are you trying to raise the apportionment? Reply, "No." I could have forgiven this if there had been a sign of shame or a disposition to apologize. I was in hopes there would be some kind of an excuse—one was needed sadly enough—but there was none. I delivered myself forthwith, and it had the same effect that the severe curtain lecture by Samantha Allen had on her husband when the only reply he made was to ask her what she supposed the hired girl would have good for supper.

The apportionment is evidently a hard thing for our people to adopt. This arises from two causes; first, our people have never been methodical, it is difficult for them to get down to a system; and, second, there is a lack of sympathy with General Conference or its Board, a feeling that these bodies are foreign, and their action brings no real obligation upon the churches. I hope the time will come when Free Baptists will depend upon one another rather than be independent of one another. A state of inter-dependence is better than a state of independence and has more strength in it. To see alike, to pull together, to stand together is best. In fact, unless we stand up together we shall fall down apart.

With proper regard for the time it takes to break up a bad habit, it is fully time now after six years to get down to system in raising our benevolences. It is humiliating to confess that on last home-missions day the average per church for home missions was thirty-seven cents. In consequence we have churches which have been promised help, and have hired pastors with the expectation of prompt help to pay—I say we have churches which must close and dismiss their pastors because there is no money to pay them. One pastor has had sixty dollars since October last, and another, one hundred dollars. Five dollars from each church on last home-missions day would have given us at least six thousand dollars to help out our cause. Two dollars and a half each would have given us three thousand dollars, and one dollar each would have given us at least one thousand dollars.

But what do we find? Less than one hundred churches contributed anything last home-missions day. Where are the other churches? We had an old F. B. sister in Michigan who when admonished that she should be true to the cause replied that she had

Another great need is money. I
work; we are paralyzed without
money, our young people need mon
needs money, our home work needs
needed for regular church expenses.
more money. We need not despai
among Free Baptists so that they co
have, raise one hundred thousand do
fifty thousand dollars for benevolence
ing Star and *Free Baptist* in every h
they could do it and experience no sev
the commonwealth, seeing the need
every Free Baptist for the support of its
Bates and Hillsdale and Winnebag
one hundred thousand dollars, and
for home missions; that would ma
dollars—six dollars and twenty-five cen
commonwealth should say this would
extend the time ten years; that would l
a year. Not a vast burden. Now put
Baptist in every home for ten years
and expend fifty thousand dollars yea
years, and you will have to add one hu
and a half

Now, don't any one go away and claim that I favor direct taxa-
on by the state. I'm only showing that we have resources enough
we could get at them to carry on our work to glorious victory.
There is a crying need for more ministers. I say crying need;
is that literally, for no week goes by but some church writes beg-
ing me to send them a pastor. I can count a number of our
ood reliable pulpits that have been vacant for nearly six months.
he men are not to be had. We haven't enough. It has become
grim question what we are going to do.

Now I am not here to raise that endless and wearisome contro-
ersy about the minister's salary, but that question affects this one.
am not saying whether it ought to or ought not to; I am
nly stating a fact, it does. I say it does seriously affect our min-
try. When a young man is balancing the probabilities as to
hether he ought to preach or take up a secular profession, a four
undred dollar salary on one side and double that on the other, this
ondition does and will affect his decision. It is a fact we are deal-
ng with. That is the beginning of our trouble. Perhaps you say
is lack of conviction is the beginning of the trouble. Yes, that
ay be, but, whether one or both, it results in a dearth of ministers
–the supply does not equal the demand.

I wish I could succeed in making you feel the distress of this
ant, that I could impress you with the seriousness of it. It means
at scores of churches must remain vacant, it means lost
hurches, it means great loss to our cause. Where is that anxious,
ainstaking care the fathers showed as they went about their fields
f labor, scanning this one and that one, inquiring if they did not
eel God's hand upon them and his voice calling them to preach
he gospel? I have one hope—God must be calling enough to
upply the demand.

We need to seek a closer union with all liberal Baptists. That
esolution favoring and inviting union with the Free Baptists of
lova Scotia and the Free Christian Baptists of New Brunswick
assed by the executive committee of Conference Board should
nclude the Freewill Baptists of the south and the General Baptists
f the west, and the Church of God. All these bodies substantially
greeing in polity and doctrine, no compromise and the surrender

of no conviction being needed, there is no reason why the separation should longer continue to the detriment of the cause. Let the union come, the sooner the better, and let us be one people, and let the marriage ceremony proceed at once. It would be something to remember.

We need to get back to apostolic unity. The church, the church, the church needs more emphasis. Too many other things are being emphasized. We need to get back to the church, the unity of the church. There must be some division of labor, some machinery, but we need cautioning lest we get so burdened with cogs and wheels, belts and chains, that it takes all the power we have to move it. The church is fundamental—is the unit, is the organization above all others for Christians. No other takes its place. Now I'm not firing at any one thing; I'm not thrusting at anything in particular, I'm only stating the essential, fundamental principle and plan for the kingdom of God on earth; it is the church. The church is not to be superseded, nor overshadowed, nor rivaled. Any organization, be it young people, Sunday school, charity organization, or missionary organization—these are to be under the authority of and accountable to the church. Not to suspend these different organizations, but to make them more and more parts of the church itself—functions for carrying on the necessary work to be done. Unity, not union so much as unity; unity in diversity. Other denominations are feeling this, if I mistake not. There is coming to be an anxiety, a reaching out after, a feeling for unity and simplicity; some leaders going so far as to advocate the return to the apostolic church in all its barest literalness. No doubt the church has drifted far away, and needs sadly to return to what is more simple and primitive.

Then, lastly, we need a missionary baptism. I am aware that this General Conference session will be a great disappointment to many, and, further, I'm sure it will be a very serious defeat, unless we secure here an induement of power for missionary work. For this many have been working and praying. They have been looking forward to this meeting as the place where the expected blessing and induement should take place, and where our eyes shall be cleared to see our duty more plainly; where we shall begin to

be lifted on this swelling tide already setting in, which begins to lift all Christendom. Other people and denominations have felt its power. Must we be left behind? Must we go without the blessing? Has our Divine Lord no work for us? We have anxious reasons for sending up the heart-breaking cry, "Hast thou not reserved one blessing for me? Bless me, even me, O my Father."

Would that we might feel to-day in a special sense the great needs of the heathen world and the millions mourning in darkness and in the shadow of death. The world's evangelization in this quarter should be the dearest thought that can possess us. It is pertinent right here to stop and ask what is it we are for, anyway? What is our denomination existing for? Have we a mission? Yes, yes, yes. What is it? It is to help carry out the great commission of our ascended Lord, "Go ye and disciple all nations." May we hear that voice during this session as we never heard it before. May it be the key-note for the whole session until the close. God needs us. God calls upon us now and here to give ourselves to this work. May this prove to be the day of his power with us.

Finally, God's children should be hopeful. I mean cheerful, sanguine, expectant. A hopeless man is a burden to himself, and depresses and bears down upon everything around him. A discouraged man never did anything yet. God save us from hopelessness. We have many things to give us courage and cheer.

1. We are not great in numbers, but large enough to maintain ourselves, maintain our character and standing, support and carry on our work, keep our place in the kingdom of God, and fulfil our mission. What more do we need?

2. We have by earnest endeavor added eight and one-third per cent to our church membership. These have not been by letter but by profession mainly, those taken out of the world and called to be saints. This per cent is above the average of other denominations. This speaks for the evangelistic element.

3. Another thing to encourage is that the young people's society has trebled in numbers since the last conference.

4. A church in Chicago, a church in Philadelphia, a church in Hagerstown, and an attempt in Washington.

is the Lord's, and his will be the glori

Report of the Correspondi
Given, D. D., was submitted, a
cepted and ordered on file. Th

The work in India is fully set forth
that field, which I herewith submit, an
to reproduce that information in this
has not a copy of the India report ca
Several of our heroic missionaries h
prevalent fever, but from latest repor
proved. Early in the year Rev. E. C. I
compelled, very much against their ow
field.

They reached this country in Octobe
Park, New York. May the Lord, if h
Hallam a restoration of physical strenj
service. Later in the year Miss Edna
and supported by our friends in Nova
ailment that was aggravated by the c
While we pray for our missionaries in th
less sympathetically those whose heart
force of circumstances

us and upon the people of far-off India. The openings for work in our field were never so propitious as now. Word just comes from Missionary Wyman that a rich man at Chunderkona, an important and populous center twenty-five or thirty miles from Midnapore, wants us to open missionary work in the place, and offers to give us land at a very small rent, and to put in fifty dollars for every one hundred used by us in necessary buildings. He also offers some houses rent free for six months for our native workers. A postscript adds, "Send along another missionary for the place." The work never promised better returns. The call to enter in and reap was never so imperative. There is no better chance for us in any part of the heathen world to make ourselves felt in bringing the human race to Christ than in the very place where by the providence of God we have been sowing the seed for over sixty years. How are we meeting our responsibilities to that people to whom the Lord sent us? Are we doing all that our Commander has a right to expect?

Some claim that we are giving about up to the limit of our ability for foreign missions. Last year 90,000 Free Baptists gave for foreign missions, through the General Conference treasury, $12,926, or fourteen cents each. If only one-quarter were givers, then the average would have been fifty-seven cents each. When we remember that a few individuals gave from one to four hundred dollars each the average from the rest was still less. Does any one care to question the statement that the great mass of our well-to-do Free Baptists spend a great deal more upon harmful, personal indulgences than they give for foreign missions? What we lack in order to occupy and cultivate our India field is not financial ability but more of the missionary spirit. What is the missionary spirit? It is perhaps hard to analyze and define, but it is very nearly synonymous with the Christ-like spirit. It is the spirit of loyalty to Christ, to his person, to his truth, and to the highest interests of his world-wide kingdom. One who is under the dominion of that spirit cannot be at ease and make no earnest endeavor to make Christ known to the millions who are perishing. Let one who lacks this spirit take his Bible, read and study and pray, until he comes to see in the light of God that the one purpose of the whole book is the

sphere. It is the power that is behi
appear in our little work. A man n
and not love the world. No man ev
like love who did not love his countr
sary for us then, in order to secure fo
local work the greatest power and
greatest success, to have the passion f
and for all that is in man." God's pl
to say that work is more important or
than upon another. What we need t
an interest in the world-wide plan is e
where. Interest in work away from
work at home. A late professor of Pri
wrote, "If I were asked how a chu
would be most likely to rise and gro
means of attaining edification and stre
dence let it begin in good earnest to p
ing the gospel to the benighted and p
principle most sincerely. Because I s
ties in our land for helping world-wi
am intensely interested in having bette
that first of all we seek to know the w
universal plan; that we heed the last c
than having

mation of God's plan for the world. The trouble is not in doing for one's own church, or for a local body of churches, but in making that the end of all work and interest and aspiration. The church that seeks only its own upbuilding and lives only for its own life is struck with death, and is no longer a spiritual force in the world. The same is true of an association or yearly meeting. "Whosoever will save his own life shall lose it." I plead for more and better home-mission work, but it will never be secured by ignoring the wider claims and aiming for any local upbuilding as an end. There is in all local work a natural tendency toward a localization of interest which is sure to defeat the very end sought. The opportunities for home mission work in this country are simply immense, and the Conference Board, looking over the whole field and recognizing the magnificent openings, is constantly defeated in what it would do because it has no money. The limited amount of money furnished our General Conference treasury for extending and strengthening our work in this country makes it almost a farce to attempt anything in that department. We feel assured that our churches could easily, in addition to what they wisely furnish their state boards, double or treble the amount to be used by the Conference Board. We believe that a wise policy of self-defense will prompt our churches to devise more liberal things for missions in the United States. The Conference Board has done what it could, and it is hardly worth while to repeat here the information contained in the treasurer's report. The largest appropriation was to our work at Storer college, a work to which our denomination has been so thoroughly committed.

The year closed with a debt of $1700 and several unpaid appropriations. The Fidelity church in Cleveland, after receiving assistance for a few years, has during the last year been self-sustaining, and has also become one of our strong supporters through its offerings to our benevolent funds. Any report of our denominational home-mission work must be very defective that does not recognize the good work done by the various state boards. An attempt has been made to secure for this report a summary of such work, with partial success. The corresponding secretary of the Maine Association, after referring to the hard times, states that

... and remain three more; ha
sonages. The state is increasing in
are seeking the centers, so that ther
city and village churches. The Mas
ing itself heroically to church buildi
paid to four different interests the
hired and loaned to two interests $5
ton is completed and was dedicate
Island Association helped the last ye
of $525, and paid an arrearage o
Yearly Meeting reports two churche
built and dedicated a new house. T
and expended $212 in aid of their
Ohio states that a new church costing
at Vinton, for which enterprise the
Meigs Quarterly Meetings gave libera
Meeting work is progressing upon t
Ohio River Yearly Meeting has aided
some $250. Wisconsin has an endow
the interest from which, with an as
resident member, enables them to
All churches but two have pastors.
Winona, Winnebago City, and Clear I
Our western agent, Rev. W. P. Van W

financial panic, and will be ready for better things in the future. The work in Missouri needs continued effort and supervision. We have over 5000 members in the state, and many opportunities are open for energetic and consecrated men. There have been many revivals. Our increasing population, the large numbers of immigrants, enabling us to do foreign mission work at home, the city problem and the problem in country towns as well, obedience to our Lord's command, all urge us to larger giving and increased service for God in this country.

The educational department of our work seems to receive too scanty attention. After leaving to our educational institutions the provisions for higher learning, there remains the very important work of furnishing students for our theological schools and rendering them such assistance as is necessary. The financial receipts have been about as usual, but inadequate to meet the needs. Say what you will about missionary work, our denominational success depends upon our ministry, and our ministry is what, under God, we make it. If we have too few bright young people in our divinity schools it is because we, the members of our churches, fail to pray for and seek out prospective laborers and send them along, with the assurance that we will help at least to relieve them from financial anxiety during their course of study. If we are to have good pastors in ten years from now we must have them in training, and in the case of young men we must not necessitate any short cuts to the pulpit. We absolutely need more money for the assistance of those who are struggling to fit themselves for the holy calling. We also need to greatly increase the number of those who are in a few years to be our pastors, missionaries, and leaders. Our institutions of learning are prosperous.

Bates College.—The last three years have been marked by healthy growth. Each year has brought increased numbers both to the college and to the divinity school. Substantial additions have been made to the fund. The libraries and laboratories have been appreciably enriched. A professorship in history and economics was added last year. Assistants have been employed to supplement the instruction given in ancient classics, chemistry, and physics, and rhetoric and English literature. Beginning with the next

term, systematic, daily instruction in elocution will constitute part of the regular work. There is great interest in collegiate and intercollegiate debates, and success has been won in three of the four contests with other institutions. Our oldest buildings are Hathorn Hall and Parker Hall. The first was renovated and much improved last year. The second is now being furnished with steam-heating arrangements, and in great part remodeled by throwing the rooms into suites, each consisting of a study and sleeping-room connected. The gymnasium is now heated with steam and has been well supplied with new apparatus. An accomplished instructor in physical culture is employed, and a fine athletic field is being made ready for use next year.

Roger Williams Hall, erected for the divinity school four years ago, has contributed not only to the facilities for student residence and instruction, but to the beauty of the campus. The religious life of the college was never more cheering, each of the four classes maintains with large attendance its own prayer-meeting, and the general meetings are often crowded. Conversions are frequent. The numerous lectures given by eminent scholars and speakers at the divinity school are of great interest and value; and the ministers' institute now held annually in Roger Williams Hall is a growing factor in the life of our community and the improvement of our ministry. The graduates of the college are taking high rank in their various callings, and in educational work are everywhere found in the front rank. For all these evidences of growth we thank God and take courage. Yet growth is giving new emphasis to long-standing needs, and is creating opportunities that speedily pass into demands. The income from the endowment is sadly inadequate, and the annual expenses can be met only by appealing to the generous appreciation of the friends of Christian education. At least one hundred more scholarships are urgently needed. The college should have at least two additional professorships, and the divinity school cannot wait much longer for its fifth professor.

Three new buildings should be erected at once—a library, a dormitory for the young women of the college, and a hall for the literary and religious societies and for public exercises. Bates has faithfully and fruitfully used the talents already intrusted to her; and it

lt to see how Free Baptists can better strengthen their
y in all kinds of Christian work than by doubling her
nt and her resources.

tale College.—The hard times have affected the attendance
nts, principally in the preparatory department, the past
t the prospect is better for next year. The last graduating
mbered 31, of which seven were from the theological
ent. A field agent has been employed under authorization
Conference Board. Dr. Dunn has closed a long and active
n the college, and Dr. J. T. Ward has been elected to the
cal faculty. Worthing Divinity Hall is now the home of
ological department. A reception room and ten study
ave been furnished in the building and all are occupied.

a College.—This institution is now doing regular college
th an efficient faculty. Its funds have been considerably
d. An electric railroad eight miles in length, running close
ollege, establishes close connection with Penn Yan and
nes of railroads. The property is free from incumbrance
patronage by way of students is encouraging. The addi-
Rev. E. C. Hayes to the faculty is significant of growth
s promise of future enlargement.

r College.—The college has entirely removed its indebted-
d President Lawrence's connection with the institution is a
hat debts will not be any part of its curriculum.

Grande College.—In the two last years the college has taken
d steps. The attendance has been larger than ever before.
stees have put a steam-heating plant in the college this
costing $1345. The friends of the college have under-
o increase the endowment, and a number of small gifts
en received amounting to nearly $1000.

r College.—This institution has had one of its most suc-
years and promises better things for the year to come.
cess as a world-saving force depends upon our devising
eral things and remembering that our duty is not limited
wn abilities, since these are supplemented by God's infinite
s.

ARTHUR GIVEN, *Corresponding Secretary.*

Conference met, as per adj
Thursday evening, President L

After a praise service praye
H. Ball, D. D., of New York.

An address of welcome was
M. Webb, Esq., president of t
tion, who in appropriate wor
Conference a gavel and block
grown upon the grounds of Oc
this gift President Lord made
sponse on behalf of the Confer

The subject of Education
topics, as follows:

1. "Our Educational Instit
Ago and To-day," by Pres. G.
Hillsdale College.

2. "What the Schools Owe
Pres. R. M. Lawrence, A. M.

FRIDAY MORNING.

OCEAN PARK, OLD ORCHARD, ME., Friday, Aug. 26, 1898.

Conference assembled, as per adjournment, at nine o'clock, President Lord in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Rev. O. R. Bacheler, M. D., of India.

Roll was called and a quorum ascertained to be present.

Minutes of yesterday's sessions were read and approved.

On motion of Jackson of New York, voted that morning sessions close at twelve o'clock noon.

On motion of Ford of Michigan, voted to invite all foreign missionaries present to a seat in Conference with right of discussion, but not to vote.

On motion of Anthony of Maine, Rev. Joseph McLeod, editor of *The Religious Intelligencer* of Fredericton, N. B., fraternal delegate of the Free Baptist General Conference of New Brunswick, was invited to a seat in Conference with the usual courtesies.

The report of the treasurer of General Conference, Rev. A. Given, D. D., for the year ending June 30, 1898, was submitted, accepted, and by vote ordered on file.

FOREIGN MISSIONS DEPARTMENT.

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand July 1, 1897			$271.97
Contributions for general fund . .		$6,824.07	
"	Balasore school fund .	435.00	
"	Balasore school interest .	66.36	
"	Bible school fund .	16.00	

	O. H. Hamlen	
"	H. C. Phillips	
"	H. M. Phillips	
"	E. B. Stiles	
"	E. C. Wile and w	
"	H. E. Wyman	
"	E. H. Lougher	
"	Bible and tract ca	
"	schools and misce	
	Total contributions	
Bequests for general fund		
Interest on permanent fund		
"	Bible school fund	
"	Balasore school fund	
	Total interest	
Bible school hall fund from Educatic		
Bills payable		
	Aggregate	

DISBURSEM

Annuities

lalsore school fund carried to investment account.		435.00
;pense account as follows:		
Executive committee	$60.55	
Conference board	255.40	
Safe deposit	17.50	
Bond	13.12	
Printing	54.18	
Postage and stationery	106.49	
Clerical help	338.80	
Salary of field secretary	112.50	
Expenses of field secretary	93.67	
Salary of treasurer	1,050.00	
Expenses of treasurer	139.65	
		2,241.86
sh on hand June 30, 1898		.53
Aggregate		$17,825.93

INVESTED FUNDS.

Permanent Fund.

tes	$300.00	
cks and bonds	3,700.00	
rtgages and trust deeds	7,425.00	
al estate	2,750.00	
ylor Little estate	800.00	
sh	159.38	
		$15,134.38

Bible School Fund.

tes	$1,437.00	
ocks and bonds	4,200.00	
ortgages	4,419.00	
al estate	1,800.00	
sh	1,518.80	
		$13,374.80

Mortgage . . . . *Henry A*

Total invested funds

HOME MISSION

RECI

Cash on hand July 1, 1897 .
Contributions for general fund
" permanent fund
" Boston church
" Cairo institute
" Harper's Ferry
" Hardwick, Vt.
" Hagerstown, Md.
" Maine Association
" Winnebago City, I
Total contributions
Bequests for general fund

DISBURSEMENTS.

inuities	$109.00	
ston church	117.38	
veland, O.	91.70	
iro institute	18.00	
arlestown, W. Va.	100.00	
mbridge, Mass.	125.00	
rper's Ferry	1,034.08	
rrisburg, Pa.	133.33	
rton, Kan.	150.00	
rdwick, Vt.	75.00	
gerstown, Md.	42.40	
nesaw, Neb.	50.00	
coln, Neb.	200.00	
n, Mass.	75.00	
ine Association	45.79	
ssachusetts Association	147.30	
rphysboro, Ill.	150.00	
w Hampshire Y. M.	290.94	
braska Y. M.	25.00	
rthern Kansas, Nebraska, and Missouri	775.00	
nesville, O.	184.21	
ode Island Association	234.19	
		$4,227.32
manent fund carried to investment account		1,236.00

pense account as follows:

Executive committee	$21.62	
Conference board	91.22	
Safe deposit	6.25	
Bond	4.70	
Printing	8.20	
Postage and stationery	45.65	
Clerical help	121.00	
Salary of field secretary	1,111.00	
Expenses of field secretary	159.72	
Salary of treasurer	375.00	
Expenses of treasurer	49.88	
		1,994.24
sh on hand June 30, 1898		10.07
Aggregate		$7,467.63

INVESTED FUNDS.

Permanent Fund.

Note	$800.00
Stocks	1,450.00
Mortgages and trust deeds	4,375.00
Savings bank	1,100.00
Taylor Little estate	800.00
Cash	2,523.76
	$1

Henry Newton Fund.

Mortgage	$300.00
Bond	100.00
Total	
Total invested funds	$1

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand July 1, 1897	
Contributions for general fund	$1,469.62
" Bates College	20.00
" Keuka College	5.00
" Parker College	46.15
" Rio Grande College	10.65
Total contributions	
Interest permanent fund	$30.00
E. True fund	92.00
Library fund	77.85
Henry Newton fund	19.50
Total interest	
	$
Bills payable	
Aggregate	$

DISBURSEMENTS.

nuity	$9.00	
tes College	1,306.31	
" Fullonton fund	20.00	
" Library fund	20.93	
lsdale College	307.37	
" Library fund	47.17	
uka College	5.00	
ker College	97.25	
Grande College	10.65	
rer College	36.80	
don Institute	300.00	
		$2,160.48
ense account as follows:		
Executive committee	$4.32	
Conference board	18.24	
Safe deposit	1.25	
Bond	.93	
Printing	4.10	
Postage and stationery	17.06	
Clerical help	24.20	
Salary of treasurer	75.00	
Expenses of treasurer	10.05	
		155.15
le school hall fund to F. M. ledger		106.82
h on hand June 30, 1898		5.67
Aggregate		$2,428.12

INVESTED FUNDS.

Permanent Fund.

h	$1,254.55

E. True Fund.

cks and bonds	$1,315.00	
rtgages	1,500.00	
h	261.01	
		3,076.01

Trust deed *Henry N*

Total invested funds
Liability—note held b

ONE CENT TA

RECEI

Cash
Account overdrawn June 30, 1898

DISBURSEI

Cash overdrawn July 1, 1897
Printing programs
Committee on N. Y. church
Committee on African mission

R. E. Brockett, Rio Grande, O., permanent fund	25.00	
Mrs. Mentor, Eaton Rapids, Mich. . .	1.00	
Iowa Y. M.	1.25	
		143.89
		$485.49

DISBURSEMENTS.

Rev. S. Bartlett, Iowa . . .	$40.00	
Rev. J. W. Hills, New York . . .	25.00	
		$65.00
Cash on hand June 30, 1898		420.49
		$485.49

ARTHUR GIVEN, *Treasurer.*

I find the above account correctly cast and properly vouched.
Aug. 1, 1898. DANIEL G. WOOD, *Auditor.*

The report of the finance committee of Conference Board was submitted by Farnum of Rhode Island, and on motion of Gow of Pennsylvania it was voted to adopt the same and place it on file.

The treasurer's report as audited and received shows as follows:

FOREIGN MISSION DEPARTMENT.

Receipts for year ending June 30, 1898, including bequests and interest, and cash on hand July 1, 1897, of $271.97 . . . . . $17,219.11
Disbursements during the year $17,825.40

HOME MISSION DEPARTMENT.

Receipts, including bequests and interest, and cash on hand July 1, 1897, of $32.87 . . . . . $5,707.63
Disbursements during the year $6,221.56

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Receipts, including cash on hand July 1, 1897, of $138.35 . . . . . $1,909.12
Disbursements for the year $2,315.63

The treasurer has exhibited to the
curities of the different departments
report as submitted.

The committee approved of the tr
pense account such investments as
doubtful value, most of which are of l

During the past year there have
with the vote of General Conference
interest with undoubted security, with
Conference.

L.]
Hn
H.

On motion, it was voted th
afternoon session be at five o'clo

Rev. W. H. Fultz of Maine, c
to the Free Baptist Conference c
non-attendance, and by vote was

Rev. Joseph McLeod, fraten
Free Baptist General Conferen
was introduced, made cordial ar
and submitted an interesting re
body

On motion of Jordan of Maine, voted to refer to a special committee, to be appointed by the chair, the method of electing members of Conference Board. The chair appointed Jordan of Maine, Waterman of Vermont, Mrs. True of Iowa.

On motion of Anthony of Maine, voted that the president and treasurer be and hereby are empowered to sign deeds or other necessary documents in the sale or disposal of property at Waterbury Center, Vt., known as Green Mountain Seminary and now held as property of General Conference.

On motion of Anthony of Maine, voted that the doings of Conference Board be approved.

Ball of New York introduced the following:

Resolved, That the Conference Board be requested to take into consideration the advisability of opening a Free Baptist mission in the West India islands.

Referred to the committee on Foreign Missions.

On motion of Jordan of Maine, voted to raise a special committee on papers, to be appointed by the chair. The president appointed Myers (W. A.) of Michigan, Scribner of New Hampshire, Clark of Ohio.

Jordan of New Hampshire offered a resolution relating to the names of ecclesiastical bodies, which was referred to the committee on Church Polity.

On motion of Mrs. Griffin of New York, voted that a special committee be appointed by the chair to revise and report letters from the yearly meetings and associations. The president appointed Lockhart of Massachusetts, Stillman of Rhode Island, Jackson of New

Prayer was offered by Rev.
mont.

The report of the publisher
at this time submitted for inf
file.

The action of the 20th General Co
and complete report of the financial co
lishment shall be made at each session
In accordance with this requiremen
Board of Corporators the publishe
following statement:

Cash received and paid out for three

	RECEIPTS.
Cash on hand July 1, 1895	.
July 1, 1895, to July 1, 1896	.
July 1, 1896, to July 1, 1897	.
July 1, 1897, to July 1, 1898	.
Total .	. . .

EXPENDITURES

SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT.

	Amount of Business.	*Cost.*
rom *Star* subscriptions .	$25,893.35	$39,603.21
· advertisements . .	13,475.38	
arterlies and *Leaves* . .	26,266.63	13,795.27
'e	7,457.00	5,298.11
le Buds . . .	2,116.28	1,853.24
. . . . .	7,132.63	6,026.43
ıg	8,686.54	6,641.40
. . . . .	1,008.38	919.58
Total . . .	$92,036.19	$74,137.24

penses from July 1, 1895, to July 1, 1898, $15,107.50

ıd liabilities as shown by the inventory taken June 30,

ASSETS.

:	$19,937.00	
d press room . . .	7,855.55	
om	570.00	
. . . .	50.00	
; room	8,012.89	
;s	1,257.30	
ts	17,735.18	
ıf investments . . .	2,274.41	
ıer, etc.	1,576.75	
. . . . .	3,041.00	
plies	243.00	
Morning Star subscribers .	9,675.61	
maps, etc. . . .	2,316.75	
ıs	2,220.68	
:ous	11,855.65	
		$88,602.37

LIABILITIES.

lvanced orders unfilled .	$492.55
ads, advanced orders unfilled .	158.83
" " " .	29.98
es " " " .	684.05
lls unpaid . . .	91.49

Net assets . .
Net assets, 1897 .

Profit . . . .

The record for each year is as follo
Year ending June 30, 1896, gain
Year ending June 30, 1897, gain
Year ending June 30, 1898, gain

CIRCULATION OF PE

Morning Star . . .
The Myrtle (fortnightly) .
The Myrtle (weekly) . .
Our Myrtle Buds . . .
Senior Quarterlies . .
Junior Quarterlies . .
Primary Quarterlies . .
Senior and Junior Lesson Leaves
Primary Lesson Leaves . .

In the line of new publications we
General Conference Law," prepared for
mittee, Rev. Martyn Summerbell and M
a handy little volume of about one hur
The "Digest" is

The report of the publisher of *The Free Baptist* was submitted and placed on file.

The Free Baptist, through nearly seventeen years of existence, has steadily won its way into the hearts of the people, until to-day it can be said with considerable confidence that it has established alike its right to live, its reason for living, and its constituent source of life. Other papers with larger circulation have been compelled to suspend, while the financial standing of *The Free Baptist* remains good. It has all debts paid up to date, with a small balance on the right side of the ledger and a good prospect of keeping it so.

The fact that this paper with a comparatively small circulation should have met none of these rocks during the intense financial pressure of the last few years, but can again report all accounts square to date, except the accounts that are owed us, speaks at once for the wisdom and ability of its former publisher and the stability of the paper itself.

The circulation of the paper changes from time to time, but it wavers only between well-defined limits, and on the whole is to be counted on as remaining approximately where it has been for several years past.

Some changes in form have taken place during the last three years, and the present form seems to meet the desires of the people quite universally. There would be but little question of further change if the matter of expense could be settled by an increased income, but this may enter into the problem in the near future to compel a change to a less expensive form.

The paper needs a much larger number of subscribers, and to this end I would respectfully suggest to and urge upon every minister and layman interested in the welfare of the cause it represents the urgent necessity and advisability of pushing its circulation in their respective communities. No work can be of more benefit to the subscribers themselves, to the denominational interests, or to the cause of Christ. It will bear large fruitage.

Give the paper one thousand more paying subscribers and it will be a better paper in many ways. It would be impossible to tell in this report all the things that might be done for the paper and with it if the subscription were largely increased. This is the great need at

...elected, in keeping the
as to the general make-up of the
an evangelistic, biblical, and theref
not intend that the paper shall pu
because it may be called Free Bapt
no Free Baptist doctrine, good, bad
on which the paper shall push anyth
Christ as the wisest polity for Free
preach anything because it is Free
truth. And the paper will be inten
Baptists stand for the truth.

Another thing that is wanted is
the churches. The news columns are
pastor's business to see to it that his
too modest to report it himself, or
that the church clerk should do this,
it. An understanding between past
matter is commended. Often each is

Asking your prayers and expectin
way, I am, Respectfully yours,

On motion of Jordan of M
and direct the president and tr

Baptists be and they are hereby authorized to execute in the name of said Conference to David F. Murdock of Portland in the county of Cumberland and state of Maine a release of all the interest of said Conference in certain real estate situated in said Portland, being the same described in a mortgage deed from Frederick A. Clark to said General Conference, dated May 14, A. D. 1896, and recorded in the Registry of Deeds for said county of Cumberland, book 638, page 269.

On motion of Anthony of Maine, a resolution relating to lay preachers was referred to the committee on Ministry.

On motion of Rendel of Indiana, a resolution relating to records and reports was referred to the committee on Church Polity.

On motion of Lawrence of Minnesota, a resolution relating to General Conference apportionments was referred to the committee on Finance.

On motion of Mrs. Durgin of Minnesota, Conference voted a recess of thirteen minutes.

At close of recess order was called and Rev. Dr. Ball of New York conducted a discussion upon "The Relation of State Organizations to Denominational Interests." Five-minute speeches were made by the following: Patch of New Hampshire, Wilson of Massachusetts, Mrs. Cheney of Maine, Jordan of New Hampshire, Meservey of New Hampshire, Fulton of Ohio, Myers (C. H.) of Michigan, and Osgood of West Virginia.

Hull of Wisconsin presented a resolution relating to reports of contributions, which was referred to the committee on Publications.

[illegible] after Tuesday aft
Prayer was now offered by
Voted to adjourn.

FRIDAY EV

At 7.30 o'clock Conferenc
Lord in the chair.

After a praise service, and
Leod of New Brunswick, the
Missions was discussed with
speakers:

1. "Practical Results of H
erto," by Prof. A. W. Anthony
2. "Home Mission Fields
tian Church," by Rev. W. P. V
and Rev. J. J. Hull of Wisconsi
3. "Foreign Missions in A
Sanford, D. D., of New York, a
D., of New York.

SATURDAY MOR

OCEAN PARK, OLD

On motion of Ford of Michigan, voted to invite the ex-presidents of Conference, Rev. O. B. Cheney, D. D., and Rev. J. A. Howe, D. D., to seats in Conference.

Ward of Michigan presented a resolution relating to appropriations for home missions, which was referred to the committee on Home Missions.

Ball of New York presented a resolution that this Conference become a member of the Anti-Saloon League. Referred to the committee on Temperance.

Mrs. Griffin of New York presented a resolution relating to a children's home missionary. Referred to the committee on Home Missions.

Mrs. Griffin of New York offered a resolution relating to Children's Day collections. Referred to committee on Home Missions.

Brown of Maine presented a resolution relating to the separation of home mission, foreign mission, and educational departments. Referred to the committee on Foreign Missions.

Waterman of Vermont presented a resolution relating to printing suitable certificates of license. Referred to the committee on Publications.

Waterman of Vermont presented a resolution relating to the Correspondence school. Referred to the committee on Education.

Mawhorter of Indiana presented a resolution relating to establishing a mission in the West Indies. Referred to the committee on Foreign Missions.

Mawhorter of Indiana presented a resolution relating to the United Society of Free Baptist Young People. Referred to the committee on Young People's Work.

for publication in *The Morni Baptist.*

The special committee on re letters of the yearly meetings time presented and read the meetings and associations.

On motion of Myers (W. A.) accept the report of the committ

The request of the J. S. Mann admission to this body was referr Requests.

The request of Rev. John Pl town, N. J., was referred to the c

Ball of New York submitted a mittee on Church Polity, and on Minnesota the report was recomm

Space of New York presented preparatory schools. Referred

The request of the Massachusetts Association relating to the Brockton church was referred to the Conference Board.

Mawhorter of Indiana presented a resolution relating to the selection of members of Conference Board. Referred to the special committee on the Election of Conference Board.

On motion of Mrs. Cheney of Maine, the request that the clerk of Conference Board notify the proper officers in each yearly meeting and association which has failed to report by letter of their omission, with the information that a second failure might lead to discipline, was referred to the committee on Home Missions.

Whitcomb of Maine presented a resolution relating to delinquent subscribers of *The Morning Star*. Referred to the committee on Finance.

Anthony of Maine presented a resolution relating to yearly meetings and associations not reporting to this session. Referred to the committee on Home Missions.

The committee on Ministerial Record presented their report as follows:

RT OF ACCESSIONS TO THE FREE BAPTIST MINISTRY BY

	Age	Date of Ordination	Authority of Ordaining Council.	Preparation in Studies.
.	.	Aug. 28, 1895	York Co. Q. M., Me. State Asso.	
.	48	Sept. 7 "	Erie Q. M., N. Y.	Woodstock (Ont.) Theo. course.
.	31	Sept. 25 "	N. H. Y. M.	Bates Col., Andover Theo. Sem.
.	40	Oct. 6 "	Franklin Co. Q. M., Ill. . . .	. . . . .
.	51	Oct. 6 "	" " " " . . .	Well read and educated . . .
.	30	Oct. 20 "	Genesee Q. M., Mich.	High School, 4 yrs. at college .
.	44	Oct. 22 "	R. I. Association	Partial course Cobb Div. Sch.
.	29	Oct. "	Huntington Q. M., Vt.	
.	37	Nov. 22 "	Wisconsin Y. M.	Rule of Treatise of 1892 . . .
.	31	Dec. 1 "	Michigan State Asso.	Rio Grande Scientific, Hillsdale
.	59	Dec. "	Exec. Com. State Asso., Ohio.	[Theo. course.
.	.	"	Wheelock Q. M., Vt.	Partial course Cobb Div. Sch.
.	.	"	Adair Q. M., Mo.	
	33	Feb. 16, 1896	Carbondale Q. M., Ill.	General reading, F.B. literature
.	.	Mar. 7 "	Lawrence Q. M., N. Y.	

M. R. Hayes	50	1896		General reading	Since 1865.
Chas. E. Stuart	53	"	Tuscarora Q. M., N. Y.	Common education	Evangelistic.
Jacob Webb	57	"	Boone Co. Q. M., W. Va.	" "	Reasonably good.
Delia S. Wolfe	34	Jan. 10, 1897	Hillsdale Q. M., Mich.	Hillsdale college 1897	Home mission.
John H. Wolfe	35	Jan. 10	" " "	" " "	2 years.
Chas. L. Fowler	40	Jan. 14	"	Merrimack Valley Asso., N.H.	Preaching several years.
W. Ed. Meads		Feb.	"	Makanda Q. M., Ill.	1 year evangelistic work.
John Waymire		Mar. 19	"	Osceola Q. M., Mo.	
Otto L. Nichols	36	Mar. 28	"	Mich. F. B. Asso., Hillsdale Q. M.	Seven years Hillsdale college. 2 yrs.
Jas. Venerble	40	March	"	Bristol Q. M., Tenn.	
A. J. Lowe	44	"	"	" " "	
Louise R. Sprague	46	Apr. 9	"	Aroostook Q. M., Me. St. Asso.	Prescribed reading course 15 yrs. active work.
Albert W. Jefferson		June 6	"	Lisbon Q. M., N. H. Y. M.	Graduate Cobb Divinity Sch.
Frank B. French	44	June 13	"	Spafford Q. M., N. Y.	Dunn-Butler Theol., Treatise 20 yrs. S. S. work.
T. P. Price		June 13	"	French Creek Q. M., N. Y.	Passed good examination Some evangelistic work.
Geo. M. Caldwell	43	June 17	"	R. I. Association	15 yrs. Y. M. C. A., S. S. work.
H. H. Hayes		June 18	"	Maine State Association	Bangor Theo. Sem. 1898 Y. M. C. A. work, preaching.
A. S. Buzzell		June 24	"	Farmington Q. M.	
Joshua D. Chidester		June 27	"	Susquehanna Y. M., N. Y.	4 yrs. preaching.
A. E. Kenyon	30	June	"	R. I. Association	10 yrs. sch., coll., theol. sch.
Mrs. Libbie C. Griffin	46	July 15	"	Chemung Q. M., N. Y.	Regular college course Missionary in India.
James W. Tolly	31	July 18	"	Hillsdale Q. M., Mich.	Soph. yr. class, theol. Hillsdale 10 yrs.
Jas. W. Williams		July 21	"	R. I. Asso., Roger Wms. ch.	Some years licensed preacher.
Samuel Fulton	41	Aug. 15	"	Ohio River Y. M.	1 yr. study Gen. Conf. course 4 yrs.
A. H. Lash	26	Aug. 15	"	Ohio River Y. M.	General Conf. course Extensive.
Ernest E. Osgood	26	Aug. 15	"	N. H. Y. M.	Bates coll. '92, Emerson C. of O. 1 yr. pastor Harper's Ferry.
Amiel A. Ostrich	30	Sept. 5	"	Iowa Y. M.	6 yrs. prep. and college 2 1-2 yrs. ministry.
Herman A. Childs	28	Sept. 22	"	Maine F. B. Asso.	Bates coll., Cobb Divinity Sch. 6 yrs. preaching.
Arba J. Marsh	28	Oct. 21	"	N. Y. & Pa. Y. M.	Bates coll., Chicago Univ. City mission work.
Walter J. Malvern	35	Nov. 5	"	N. H. Y. M.	Courses N. Hampton, Lewiston Several years as supply.
J. F. Dempsey	40	Nov. 7	"	Franklin Co., Q. M., Ill.	Licensed several years.
A. Z. Elam	44	Nov. 7	"	" " " "	Reading circle work " 5 "
E. Judson Hatch	33	Nov. 9	"	Wheelock Q. M. Vt.	Bates college 1894 Preaching since 1896.
C. T. Coombs		Nov. 10	"	Aroostook Q. M., Me.	
Fred Simmons	42	Nov. 17	"	Mich. F. B. Asso.	3 yrs. course in M. E. ch. 18 yrs. preaching in M. E. ch.
E. M. Johnson	42	Nov. 23	"	N. Y. & Pa. Y. M.	4 1-2 yrs. pastoral work.
F. P. Tilton	61	Nov. 27	"	Minnesota Y. M.	Common school education 5 yrs. preaching, 2 yrs. S. S.
E. M. Beum	27	Dec. 5	"	Adair Q. M., Mo.	F. B. Treatise and Bible 1 yr. licentiate.

J. Stanley Durkee . . .	31	Jan. 26, 1898	Ministers Conf. Me. State Asso.	Bates coll., Cobb Divinity Sch.	10 yrs. preaching.
G. W. Wilson	44	Feb. 4 "	Cairo Q. M. council.		
Ernest R. Caswell . . .	28	Feb. 8 "	Massachusetts Association . .	Revere Lay college	Evangelistic.
Mrs. Ina L. Straw . . .	26	Feb. 17 "	Mich. Asso.	General Conf. course	Supply preaching, pastoral w.
R. J. Straw	25	Feb. 17 "	" "	" " " " . . .	2 1-2 yrs., revival and supply.
J. Franklin Babb . . .	25	Feb. 23 "	N. H. Y. M.	Acad. course, 3 yrs. prep. study	Licensed 3 yrs., Y. M. C. A.
Seth K. Coats	52	Feb. 27 "	Prairie City Q. M., Ill.	. . . . .	30 yrs. preaching.
Wm. Tasker	49	Feb. 27 "	" " " " . . .	Dunn-Butler Theology	12 yrs. S.S. and church work.
D. L. Schultz	28	Mar. 19 "	Van Buren Q. M., Mich. . . .	. . . . .	10 yrs. preaching.
John G. Bilhorn	43	Apr. 19 "	Hillsdale Q. M., " . . .	. . . . .	12 yrs. city mission work.
Edwin H. Prescott . . .	26	Apr. 28 "	Min. Conf. Maine F.B. Asso. .	N. Hampton, 2 yrs. Cobb D. S.	Supply while at Cobb Div. S.
George C. Alborn . . .	21	May 1 "	Hillsdale Q. M.	Full theol. course Hillsdale . .	6 mos. pastorate.
J. P. Williams	36	May 1 "	. . . . .	Dunn-Butler Theology.	
John Clinton Gibson . .	28	May 6 "	Lansing Q. M., Mich. Asso.	Gen. Conf. course, 3 yrs. col. .	5 years.
S. P. Montgomery . . .	33	May 15 "	Doe Run F. B. church, Mo. .	Dunn-Butler Theol., Treatise .	6 years.
Victor Monroe Morse .	28	June 4 "	Wolfeboro Q. M., N. H. . . .	Theological education	5 years' ministry.
J. B. Coy	29	July 7 "	Central N. Y. Y. M.	Bates coll., Gen. Conf. course .	Y.M.C.A., 15 mos. ministry.
Orey M. Demcott . . .	27	July 13 "	Holland Purchase Y. M., N.Y.	General Conference course . .	2 yrs. pastoral work.
W. Howard Lockwood .	29	Aug. 14 "	Nebraska Y. M.	Hillsdale college	6 mos. ministry.
V. B. Greene	30	"	Boone Co. Q. M.	Common education	Reasonably good.
Total, 90.					

Rev. Thomas Gilbert was ordained Oct. 28, 1894, and Rev. J. A. Washington was ordained Nov. 4, 1894, but neither was reported at last Conference.

ACCESSIONS FROM OTHER DENOMINATIONS.

NAME.	DATE OF RECOGNITION IN OUR BODY.	FROM WHAT DENOMINATION.	PASTORATES HITHERTO HELD.	LENGTH OF SERVICE.
John B. Day	April, 1895.	Salvation Army	21 Stations	10 years.
H. Clay Warren	August, " .	Christian Baptist.		
T. A. Strain	October, " .	Methodist Episcopal.		
C. B. Messer	Jan. 2, 1896.	Congregational.		
Chas. W. Hardy	Jan. 29 " .	Adventist	Evangelistic work	2 or 3 years.
William A. W. Hardy	" " .	"	" "	"
James Gillespie	May 31 " .	Baptist.		
Edward W. Smith	Sept. 11 " .	Congregationalist	Several in Vermont.	6 years preaching.
J. I. Broadbridge	" .	Regular Baptist	3 in Iowa; 1 in Minn.	
W. T. Milliken	Feb. 27, 1897.	Methodist Episcopal	Canada	Several years.
W. F. Manual	March " .	Baptist.		
F. C. Bradeen	May 10 " .	Congregational.		
A. Longfield	June 2 " .	Free Methodist		Several years.
W. H. Howard, M. D.	Aug. 7 " .	Missionary Baptist	Lexington, Mo.	9 years.
Robert Chandler	August, " .	Baptist.		
Seth K. Coats	November, " .	Methodist Episcopal	Number in M. E. and U. B.	
C. H. Benson	February, 1898	Baptist.		
A. G. Bartholomew	. . . . .	Methodist Episcopal	Greeley Center and others.	Several years.

Total, 18.

DECEASED MINISTERS. 1895.

NAME.	RESIDENCE.	DATE OF DEATH.	AGE.	TERM OF SERVICE
Samuel N. Tufts	Kansas City, Mo.	October	80	
H. F. Dickey	Washington, Vt.	Oct. 12	86	52
Thomas Wyatt	Bristol, N. H.	Oct. 24	73	42
Almon Libby	Georgetown, Me.	Nov. 1	79	57
Adam Smith	Newport, Ill.	Nov. 8	61	21
Harry O. Gidney	Amity, Me.	Nov. 11	66	27
Moses A. Quimby	Pittsfield, N. H.	Dec. 7	74	50
Total, 7				

The following were not reported to General Conference of 1895:

NAME.	RESIDENCE.	DATE OF DEATH.	AGE.	TERM OF SERVICE
G. W. Cortiss	Foster, R. I.	Mar. 14	68	33
J. M. Nelson	Wolcott, Vt	July 29	73	39
F. H. Butler	Waterbury, Vt.	Sept. 2	55	25
Levi Wheeler	Nemaha, Neb.	Sept. 19	64	30
Total, 4				

DECEASED MINISTERS. 1896.

NAME.	RESIDENCE.	DATE OF DEATH.	AGE.	TERM OF SERVICE
James A. Durham	Benton, Ill.	Jan. 11	65	39
G. H. Damon	Medina, O.	Feb. 6	67	40
Abram H. Millliken	Nashua, N. H.	Feb. 8	68	21
William Taylor	Italy, N. Y.	Feb. 14	73	38
Charles B. Mills	Mayville, Mich.	Mar. 11	72	53
Lazarus Gott	West Eden, Me.	Mar. 21	78	44
A. L. Moore	Paducah, Ky.	April 4	42	14
Prof. John Fullonton, D.D.	Lewiston, Me.	April 17	83	52
Emmons H. Webster	Plymouth, Wis.	April 28	66	16
H. Morton	Lowville, Pa.	May 30	82	34
Hiram Whitcher	Brockport, N. Y.	June 7	87	67
Benjamin D. Peck	Norwich, N. Y.	June 11	83	58
Prof. John S. Copp, D. D.	Hillsdale, Mich.	June 19	53	24
Henry Blackmar	Friendship, Ga.	Aug. 2	85	63
Orange T. Moulton	Haverhill, Mass.	Aug. 6	75	50
Laban Eli Bates	Fabius, N. Y.	Aug. 14	76	54
John M. Langworthy	Pine Valley, N. Y.	Aug. 17	65	38
A. D. Sandborn	Colorado	Oct. 8	65	44
Elbridge Gerry Cilley	Holton, Mich.	Oct. 14	78	52
E. Owen	Portsmouth, N. H.	Nov. 6	62	32
S. S. Cady	Sherburne, N. Y.	Dec. 1	80	53
A. T. Worden	Ames, N. Y.	Dec. 6	55	24
Richard Williams	Jefferson, O.	Dec. 13	93	68
Total, 23.				

DECEASED MINISTERS. 1897.

	Residence.	Date of Death.	Age.	Term of Service
. .	Waupun, Wis.	Jan. 2	80	50
. .	Rockport, Me.	Mar. 9	83	52
. .	New Haven, Pa.	Mar. 19	80	
. .	Broken Straw, N. Y. . .	Mar. 21	76	49
. .	Gilford, N. H.	April 16	49	16
. .	Elk Creek, Pa.	April 26	77	50
. .	Vassar, Mich.	April 27	48	14
. .	Fort Scott, Kan.	May 1	83	57
. .	Manton, Mich.	May 3		
. .	Weeks Mills, Me. . . .	May 10	80	54
. .	No. Anson, Me.	May 14	77	49
. .	Fremont, N. H.	June	81	34
. .	Clinton, Wis.	June 8	78	49
. .	St. Charles, Minn. . . .	June 17	84	56
. .	Lisbon Falls, Me. . . .	June 17	71	38
. .	Lyman, Me.	July 17	74	52
. .	Winterport, Me. . . .	July 24	70	49
. .	Chautauqua, N. Y. . .	Aug. 17	79	52
. .	Waynesville, O	Sept. 10	76	50
. .	Hillsdale, Mich.	Oct. 2	73	54
. .	Chelsea, Mass.	Dec. 6	88	54

DECEASED MINISTERS. 1898.

	Residence.	Date of Death.	Age.	Term of Service
. .	Blue Earth City, Minn. .	Jan. 2	76	
. .	Pomona, Fla.	Jan. 4	70	49
. .	Percy, Ill.	Jan. 10	81	60
. .	Acton, Me.	Jan. 15	65	20
. .	Wolfeboro Falls, N.H. .	Jan. 17	83	57
. .	Columbus, Kan.	Jan. 22	76	40
. .	California	Feb. 11	68	35
. .	Rochester, Ia.	Mar. 5	38	21
. .	St. Johnsbury, Vt. . . .	Mar. 14	77	58
. .	Concord, N. H.	Mar. 30	67	37
. .	Salem, Neb.	April 26	81	61
. .	De Ruyter, N. Y. . . .	May 9	82	62
. .	So. Limington, Me. . .	June 4	75	30
. .	Wolfeboro, N. H. . . .	July 4	80	56
. .	W. Buxton, Me.	July 23	80	46
. .	W. Berlin, Vt.	Aug. 7	85	59
. .	Durand, Mich.	Aug. 7	82	62

all. Oldest, Richard Williams, Jefferson, O., 93; W. Saunders, Rochester, Ia., 38. One over 90, nd over, forty-seven 70 and over. Average age, s in ministry, 44.

The report was referred
Ministry.

On motion of Kennan of
portion of the report relating
the special order for Sunday
Gordon of Illinois moved
until two o'clock this aftern
Scribner of New Hampshire a

SATURDAV AF

Conference reassembled at
with vote, President Lord ir
offered by Rev. J. W. Parsons,

At this point Hon. J. B. H
assumed the chair.

On motion of Chase of Mair
Myers of Michigan after Monc

1. "New England Work," by Mrs. Mary G. Osgood of New Hampshire.

2. "Western Work," by Rev. Lizzie Moody of Michigan.

3. "The *Missionary Helper*," by Mrs. S. C. G. Avery of New Hampshire.

4. "The Woman's National Council," by Mrs. F. S. Mosher of Michigan.

5. "Storer College," by Miss M. Jennie Baker of West Virginia.

6. "Our Work in India," by Miss Ella M. Butts of India.

The committee on Program recommended that a baptism be added to the exercises of Sunday. On motion of Waterman of Vermont the recommendation was adopted.

On motion of Ball of New York, voted that when we adjourn it be to nine o'clock Monday morning.

The report of the president of the Correspondence School was read by the clerk, as follows:

I have the pleasure to submit the following report as president of the Free Baptist Pastors' Correspondence school for the year ending July 31, 1898.

During the year four students have continued their work in the school, and three new students have engaged in our tasks. Of the seven, four are residents of Maine, two of New Hampshire, and one of New Brunswick. Three are ordained ministers of the gospel, one is a faithful deacon in a country church, who desires to improve himself in order to do better work as a layman, and the others are young men who possibly have the ministry in view. It is fitting that special mention should be made of two of the ministers who have been doing very faithful work; namely, Rev. W. L.

... an honored alumnus. Alt
our required subjects. Bro. Patt
finished the work in Evidences an
on required themes. He is dilig
great profit from his studies.

The financial transactions for th

Balance July 31, 1897	
Matriculations	
Book account	
Tuition	
Paid on book account	
Postage	
Administration, President	
" Treasurer	
President for History papers, Part II	
Instruction	
Balance July 31, 1898	

It is highly desirable that the scho
the ministry. Naturally from the qu
ducted it fails to attract the attentio

The small treasury balance invites the attention of General Conference to the need of an appropriation through the Conference Board, as the resources of the school will not suffice for its maintenance, even on the very modest rate of expenditure on which its affairs are managed. Finally, recent change by which my field of labor has been transferred to another state renders it necessary for me to retire from the general care of the school. As I step aside for the appointment of another I wish to express my appreciation of the kindness shown me by the Conference, the associations, the conferences, and the quarterly meetings, by the faculty of the school and the ministry in general, and I pray that my successor may enjoy a much larger sphere of success and usefulness as the years roll on.

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted,

MARTYN SUMMERBELL, *Pres. F. B. P. C. S.*

This report was referred to the committee on Education.

Through the clerk the following resignation was also read, and on motion was referred to the committee on Education.

My field of labor having been changed from Maine to central New York, I hereby tender my resignation of the presidency of the Correspondence school, to take effect upon the appointment of my successor in office. Fraternally yours,

MARTYN SUMMERBELL.

Dickinson of Iowa presented a resolution relating to quarterly meeting ordinations. Referred to the committee on Ministry.

Van Wormer of Kansas presented a resolution relating to raising funds for a western field agent. Referred to the committee on Home Missions.

... of Maine submitted
tee on Program, recommendi
cises of Sunday evening of tl
P. Clinton. The recommend

After prayer by Rev. O. D.
voted to adjourn.

SUNDAY, A

At 9.30 A. M. the dev
by Rev. O. H. Denney of
came the usual preaching se
ford, D. D., editor of *The*
from the text, 1 Cor. 7 : 15 :
peace." The general thought
rich in literary and historical r
is righteous and that none c
tian grounds.

The Lord's supper was cel
Rev. E. W. Porter of Massac
Leod, D. D., of New Brunswic

Life, East and West." Dr. O. R. Bacheler of India gave an account of his entrance upon foreign mission work. He regarded this experience as the best test of divine guidance that he had ever made. Mrs. Mary R. Wade of Maine aptly illustrated God's pity and providence in two incidents of her life. Rev. E. G. Page of Maine and Rev. J. Erskine of New Hampshire fittingly followed. Dr. Cheney gave as his special lesson, "God leads all who are willing to be led." Rev. D. B. Randall, a grandson of Benjamin Randall, here gave his testimony and blessing.

Dr. Dunn took charge of the part of the meeting devoted to reports from western ministers, and gave as his particular lesson, "The true safety and joy of life is in strict obedience to conscience." He said that never for thirty seconds had he regretted joining the Free Baptists. Rev. G. A. Gordon of Illinois and Rev. W. J. Fulton of Ohio and Rev. Ellen A. Copp of Michigan added leaves from their experience.

At the close of this session the audience repaired to the seashore, where Rev. Ernest E. Osgood of West Virginia administered the rite of baptism to his wife in the waters of the Atlantic, a service which was beautiful and impressive.

Sunday evening Rev. A. T. Salley, D. D., of Michigan, preached a strong, earnest sermon upon "The Mission of the Individual and the Church," from the text, John 17: 18.

After the sermon Mr. Lewis P. Clinton, a native African prince and a graduate of Cobb Divinity school, was set apart to the gospel ministry by ordination.

Roll was called and a quor

The minutes of Saturday's
proved.

On motion of Jackson of
Salley of Michigan from furth
Stacy of Maine presented

Resolved, That the time limit for
at the close of session Monday after

Unanimously adopted.

Stacy of Maine presented
change in the program. Refe
Program.

Mrs. Durgin of Minnesota
resolution:

Resolved, That the Thirtieth Ger
approval of the presiding officer's a
of Conference Board from committee

Adopted.

appointed the following: Knowlton of Maine, Ward of Michigan, Hayes of Maine, Mrs. Andrews of Rhode Island, and Mosher of Michigan.

Miner of Wisconsin submitted the following proposed amendment to the constitution:

I propose the following amendment to the constitution of General Conference:

Article 5 of the constitution shall be amended so that all that part between the words "members" in the fourth line and "to" in the fifth line, or the words, "at least one-third of whom shall be women," shall be stricken out, so that the article shall read: "There shall be chosen by ballot from persons in good standing in the denomination, who may or may not be members of the Conference, a Conference Board, to consist of twenty-one members; to which is hereby delegated full power to act for and in behalf of the Conference, from one regular meeting of the Conference to another," etc. M. C. MINER.

Mawhorter of Indiana presented a resolution relating to a tract on baptism. Referred to the committee on Doctrine.

Toothacre of Ohio offered a resolution relating to a reduction in the prices of our publications. Referred to the committee on Publications.

Dennett of Rhode Island presented a resolution relating to the ministry. Referred to the committee on Ministry.

Knowlton of Maine submitted a resolution relating to the desecration of the Lord's day. Referred to the committee on Denomination.

Knowlton of Maine presented a resolution relating to increase of religious organizations. Referred to the committee on Church Polity.

Gordon of Illinois presen
mission in St. Louis. Ref
Home Missions.

Jordan of Maine submit
mittee on election of Confer

Your committee on election of
mend the adoption of the same
with such changes as to number
change in the constitution may
further recommend that nominatio
the day at the opening of Conferen

B.
G.
T

The report was adopted; a
is as follows:

1. We recommend that nominati
be made from the floor, and that no
nominations.

2. That the names of all persons
able form and in suitable

4. That if a member votes for more than twenty-one members of the board, or for less than seven women, as required by the constitution, said ballot shall be regarded as fatally defective.

Anthony of Maine offered a resolution relating to a change of by-laws. Referred to the special committee on Amendments.

The committee on Ministry presented a report, which was unanimously adopted. The report follows:

The committee appointed for the consideration of questions respecting the Christian ministry would respectfully report the following suggestions:

1. That there are gifts and qualifications for exhortation, prayer, and personal Christian work which ought to be recognized and approved by the local churches, without ordination or official professional titles or ecclesiastical offices, and with no authority but internal convictions and vote of the church.

2. That no married person not living in marriage union should be ordained as a minister unless a large, judicious council and the general public consider the party proposed for ordination free from blame in the separation practised, and worthy of "good report."

3. We think the course of preparatory study recommended by General Conference is reasonable, and ought to be taken before ordination, unless the candidate has secured the full equivalent by other means.

4. Every licensed and ordained minister should report to the quarterly meeting, yearly meeting, or association annually their work in the pulpit and pastoral labor, in evangelistic efforts and missions, in charitable enterprises and in the circulation of denominational periodicals and books, and that blanks for such reports should be printed and circulated by the Conference Board.

5. That ministers received from other denominations should be as thoroughly and carefully examined by properly appointed councils as candidates for ordination, and until thus examined and recognized should not be considered Free Baptist ministers.

R.
J.
Jo
E.

Hayes of Maine presented
examination and ordination
the committee on Ministry.

Van Wormer of Kansas pr
ing to yearly meetings and as
tions of General Conference.
tee on Ministry.

The committee on the Co
which was received, and cons
adopted as read. The report

Whereas the colonial policy of Sp
been one of oppression, tyranny, an
he last three years in fiendish barba

Therefore, we Free Baptists of t
Conference assembled, thus expres

aration for the conflict which he realized was inevitable; for his energy and determination in prosecuting the war to a speedy and favorable conclusion; for granting such generous terms of settlement and employing such means of adjusting difficulties as to give promise of a speedy and permanent peace.

3. That we earnestly protest against forcing the inhabitants of Cuba, Porto Rico, or the Philippines back under the jurisdiction of the Spanish monarchy.

4. That governments should be established on those islands, as independent as the condition of the inhabitants will permit, under the supervision of the United States, to be continued until the people shall become capable of self-government.

5. That none of those islands should be annexed to the United States except in accordance with a free expression of the will of the people.

6. That we owe a large debt of gratitude to our soldiers and sailors for their marvelous victories on land and sea.

7. That we would express our heartfelt sympathy for the sick and wounded of our army and navy, and for those who are mourning for the loved and the lost.

A. B. MESERVEY,
J. B. HOLTON,
J. A. SUTTON,
} *Committee.*

White of Maine presented a resolution relating to the publication of the sermon of Rev. Dr. Bickford preached last Sunday morning. Referred to the committee on Publications.

Howe of Maine presented a resolution relating to liberty of conscience in provinces acquired from Spain. Referred to the committee on the Country.

Mawhorter of Indiana presented a resolution relating to publishing the sermons of Rev. Drs. Bickford and Salley. Referred to the committee on Publications.

home mission work and the
was referred to the committe
relating to the appointment
the Cairo Mission was referr
power. The remainder of
adopted:

1. We recommend, that, when
sends delegates to General Confe
accepted by the Conference, such
shall not be subject to expulsion fro
to the Conference the proper letter,
such bodies to perform their full dut

4. We approve of a system of i
ministerial brethren in the Cairo Mi

5. We recommend that the work
tinued in Kansas, Nebraska, and M
other efficient man under the directi

6. We also approve of the issui
tion in parts of our field where we
where they will be appreciated, on d
mental subjects pertaining to our pe

7. Whereas the arrang

Resolved, That all our churches be instructed to send their money for state work to the state treasurers, and that which they wish to give for work out of the state shall be sent to the General Conference treasury to be retained and used by the Conference Board.

A. L. GERRISH,
J. H. BAGWILL,
MARY R. WADE,
D. E. E. HALL,
Committee.

Bagwill of Illinois moved that we now take a recess until two o'clock in the afternoon.

After prayer by Rev. Z. A. Space of New York the recess was taken.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference reassembled at two o'clock, agreeable to vote for recess.

President Lord occupied the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. J. B. Jordan of New Hampshire.

The order of the hour was a discussion of the subject, "Relation of the Woman's Missionary Society to the Work of the Denomination," conducted by Miss L. A. DeMeritte, treasurer of the Woman's Missionary Society. The subject was presented in ten-minute addresses by Rev. R. D. Lord, D. D., of New York, Mrs. L. M. P. Durgin of Minnesota, Rev. H. M. Ford of Michigan, and Rev. Ellen A. Copp of Michigan.

Nominations for Conference Board were now in order, and seventy-four names were received as follows:

Mrs. N. L. Abbey, Kan.; Rev. J. E. Abramson, Iowa; Mrs. Ella H. Andrews, R. I.; Prof. A. W. Anthony, Maine; Mrs. S. C. G. Avery, N. H.; Rev. O. R. Bacheler, M. D., India; Rev. G. H. Ball, D. D., N. Y.; Mrs. M. A. W. Batchelder, Mich.; Rev. C. A. Bickford, D. D., Mass.; Prof. N. C. Brackett, Ph. D., W. Va.; Pres. G. C. Chase, D. D., LL. D., Maine; Mrs. E. B. Cheney, Maine; Rev.

Mass.; Rev. A. Given, D. D., R.
Rev. D. W. Gow, Penn.; Mrs. I
W. W. Harris, N. H.; Rev. G. R.
D. D., Maine; Rev. J. J. Hull, W
Hon. Hiram Knowlton, Maine; R
Jordan, Maine; Miss Nellie B.
Jordan, Maine; Mrs. Anna R. Jon
Minn.; Rev. T. C. Lawrence, Ohic
Rev. T. J. Mawhorter, Ind.; Hon.
M. C. Miner, Wis.; Rev. Lizzie
Mosher, LL. D., Mich.; Rev. W.
Parsons, D. D., N. Y.; Rev. O. D.
Payson, R. I.; Rev. C. S. Perkin
Mass.; Rev. J. W. Rendel, Ind.; R
A. T. Salley, D. D., Mich.; Rev. Z.
Stacy, Maine; Rev. J. A. Sutton,
Ohio; Rev. O. H. Tracy, Mass.; M
W. P. VanWormer, Mich.; Rev. J.
G. C. Waterman, Vt.; Rev. S. J.
Maine; Rev. S. C. Whitcomb, Main
Mrs. A. E. Wilson, Mass.

The special committee on A
report which

plan of unification which they regard as insuperable, and therefore recommend that the same be not adopted.

Your committee discover no legal or constitutional objections to the other proposed amendments, but the advantage, if any, to be gained from their adoption would be so slight as not to warrant the proposed changes, at least until we have made further trial of the constitution in its present form.

We recommend that an informal expression of the Conference be taken without debate as to the number of the Conference Board.

1. The committee recommend that the amendment proposed in Art. 4 do not pass.

2. Also that the proposed amendment of Art. 6 do not pass.

3. The committee also recommend that the amendment proposed of Art. 8 do not pass.

4. We report against the passage of the amendment proposed of Art. 3.

As regards the resolution presented by Anthony of Maine—

Resolved, That Art. 4 of the by-laws be amended by inserting after the words, "closing resolutions," the words, "and a committee on Ministerial Record, which last committee shall report at the next triennial session of General Conference after appointment. (The duties of the committee on Ministerial Record are fully presented in the Minutes of General Conference for 1892, p. 13, and for 1895, p. 87)."

Your committee regard the amendment to the by-laws proposed by Prof. Anthony as important, but they regard its adoption as illegal at this time, no notice of said amendment having appeared in the call for the meeting.

We recommend and hereby give notice of an amendment to Art. 13 of the by-laws, so that said article shall read as follows:

"These by-laws may be changed or amended at any meeting regularly called, by a two-thirds vote of those present, provided notice of the proposed change or amendment be inserted in the call for the meeting, or given at a meeting of the Conference previously held."

We further recommend that the following amendment to Art. 5 of the constitution be adopted, legal notice of the proposed

amendment having been duly given, and that said amendment be inserted as the second sentence beginning in the sixth line of said article:

"At the election in 1898 said Board shall be elected for four years, or until July 1, 1902; and at each subsequent meeting of the Conference said Board shall be elected for three years from the time they enter upon the discharge of their duties, which shall be on July 1 in the year succeeding that of their election."

H. KNOWLTON,
B. F. HAYES,
J. T. WARD,
ELLA H. ANDREWS,
G. F. MOSHER,
} *Committee.*

On motion of Gerrish of Massachusetts, voted that the amendment to Art. 5 of the constitution be and hereby is adopted.

An informal vote was taken, and it was voted not to reduce the number of Conference Board from 21 to 15.

Stillman of Rhode Island presented a resolution ordering a committee of reference of the General Conference and the Woman's Missionary Society. Referred to the committee on Denomination.

Mrs. Copp of Michigan presented a resolution relating to mission boards in local churches. Referred to the committee on the Denomination.

Stacy of Maine presented a resolution approving the raising of money by the card system. Referred to the committee on finance.

On motion voted that, when we adjourn, we adjourn to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Prayer was offered by Rev. J. J. Hull of Wisconsin, after which Conference adjourned.

TUESDAY MORNING.

OCEAN PARK, OLD ORCHARD, ME., Aug. 30, 1898.

Conference convened at nine o'clock, according to ljournment, President Lord in the chair. Prayer was fered by Rev. W. E. Dennett of Rhode Island.

Roll was called and a quorum ascertained to be esent.

Minutes of yesterday's sessions were read and approved.

The committee on the New West presented a report, hich was received and considered item by item, and lopted as presented.

Whereas the west is fast becoming the great center of popula-n and power in our country, and whereas the times are propi-us for the establishment of churches in this section of our coun-y; therefore, *Resolved*,

1. That the vital need of our denomination to-day is a revival home-mission interests, and that our future growth can only be cured by the adoption of an aggressive church-extension policy at has for its object the occupancy of our commercial centers and e equally promising fields of the great west, upon the develop-ent of which the success of all our future benevolent work truly epends.

2. We recognize the value of evangelistic work in our western eld, and would encourage such work through properly accredited orkers.

3. That there is special need of state and district agency work effect organization and co-operation among our churches, and at this Conference should sustain such work.

J. J. HULL,
D. W. GOW,
J. B. GIDNEY,
R. M. LAWRENCE,
} *Committee.*

On motion of Gordon of Illinois voted that we now roceed to the election of Conference Board.

chusetts, after which a reces
this afternoon.

TUESDAY A

At two o'clock P. M. the
cording to vote of adjournm
chair.

Prayer was offered by Rev

The report of the commi
members of Conference Boa

Your committee have received s
members of the Conference Board.

The whole number of votes cas
fective, and accordingly thrown o
The whole number of votes is est
necessary for a choice. The follo
women, having received the requis
declared elected:

Prof. N. C. Brackett, W. Va., 3
55; Mrs. Ellen A. Copp, Mich., 49;

The following persons were voted for but did not receive the requisite number of votes:

[The names embodied in the report are omitted from the record in accordance with subsequent vote of Conference.]

Respectfully submitted,

EDWARD P. METCALF,
C. O. CLARK,
J. B. JORDAN,
G. A. JACKSON,
R. M. LAWRENCE,
} *Committee.*

The report of the committee was accepted and the eighteen persons mentioned were declared elected members of the Conference Board.

On motion voted to raise a committee of five to put in nomination names for remaining members of Conference Board. The president appointed Webb of Maine, Hull of Wisconsin, Metcalf of Rhode Island, Mrs. Durgin of Minnesota, Mrs. Griffin of New York.

The committee on Home Missions presented a supplementary report as follows:

1. We recommend that the request for aid to the church at Lansing, Mich., be referred to the Conference Board.

2. We recommend that the clerk of Conference Board inform the proper officers in each yearly meeting or association which has failed to report by letter of its delinquency, calling attention to By-Law 2, and urge compliance with the same.

A. L. GERRISH,
MARY R. WADE,
D. E. E. HALL,
} *Committee.*

The committee on Finance presented a report which was considered item by item and after amendment was adopted as follows:

1. We recommend that Conference Board consider whether th plan of apportionment of benevolent funds cannot be so modifie as to become more equitable and acceptable.

2. We recommend the raising of $10,000 per year for th coming three years for the home-mission work of the denomina tion, to be placed in the General Conference treasury and to be a the disposal of the Conference Board, and that the yearly meetings associations, and quarterly meetings and ministers be requested t emphasize the honoring of the appointment among the churche by the observance of Home Mission day and by use of such othe methods as may be devised by the Conference Board or the churches themselves until the apportionment is met in every church.

3. We approve the following resolution:

Resolved, That we regard the card system for raising money for benevolences to be the best plan now before us, and that we recommend the form of card prescribed by General Conference.

4. *Resolved*, That the treasurer be authorized to pay the clerk of this Conference the usual amount of fifty dollars and expenses, and the usual compensation for assistant.

H. KNOWLTON,
L. B. STILLMAN,
H. F. BOLTON,
G. H. BROWN,
N. C. MCKOON,
} *Committee.*

The special committee on nomination of remaining members of Conference Board submitted a report, which was adopted; nominating Mrs. M. A. W. Batchelder of Michigan, Mrs. S. C. G. Avery of New Hampshire, A. L. Freeman of Massachusetts, Rev. T. J. Mawhorter of Indiana, Pres. G. C. Chase of Maine, and H. R. Farnum of Rhode Island.

Another ballot was ordered for the remaining members of Conference Board, and taken, with the following result:

Whole number of votes, 75; necessary for a choice, 38: Mrs. S. C. G. Avery of New Hampshire, G. C. Chase of Maine, and A. L. Freeman of Massachusetts, having received more than that number, were declared elected.

The report of the committee on Young People's Work was submitted and adopted as read:

Resolved. 1. That we indorse the definite and aggressive policy of the United Society of Free Baptist Young People, and the selection of Harry S. Myers as general secretary, to devote his entire time to the work.

2. That we urge the United Society of Free Baptist Young People to continue to make their plans in accordance with the wishes of General Conference and its Board.

3. That we commend the interest shown in our publications by the maintenance of a young people's department in the *Morning Star* and *Free Baptist*, and urge upon the young people the necessity of subscribing for and reading our denominational papers and Free Baptist literature.

4. That we approve of the action of the young people in assuming the support of Rev. and Mrs. E. H. Lougher.

5. That we commend the action of the New Hampshire young people in assuming the support of Rev. and Mrs. H. E. Wyman.

6. That we commend the progressive spirit of the young people of Maine manifested in the proposition made, subject to the decision of General Conference, to support Rev. L. P. Clinton as a missionary in Africa.

7. That we suggest to the young people the necessity of more definite home-mission work, and ask for their support.

8. That we recommend our own denominational colleges to our young people.

9. That we indorse the junior work and urge the organization of such societies wherever practicable.

10. That we indorse the Christian Givers' League and urge our Free Baptist people to become systematic givers.

446527

11. That we request the co-operation of all local young people's societies in securing worthy young men and women for the ministry and in assisting them through the schools.

EDWARD P. METCALF,
GROVER A. JACKSON,
T. J. MAWHORTER,
JOHN NASON,
} *Committee.*

The report of the committee on Foreign Missions was presented, received, and considered item by item. The report was as follows:

1. While we regret that our missionary force has diminished in India since the last General Conference, we rejoice in the success which has attended the money expended and the efforts of the missionaries in that field.

2. We regard the possibilities of the complete evangelization of that field to be largely in the native converts themselves, directed by the foreign missionaries.

3. We heartily approve of sending out Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lougher at once, and recommend that another man and wife be sent as soon as the right persons can be secured; this year if possible.

4. We commend the hearty interest manifested in foreign missions by the young people in their pledges to support missionaries. We earnestly hope that the enthusiastic loyalty shown by some will be evinced by others in the support of missionaries and also of native workers.

5. We commend the action of Conference Board in making the apportionment to our churches for the work distinct from all other apportionments for benevolent work. We urge each member of our churches to regard allegiance to the church and the work for which she stands as laid out by Conference Board to be a sacred obligation which should be met before any others.

6. We recommend that each church have a mission committee elected annually, whose duties shall be to care for the card system, the observance of established mission days, and the holding of other public mission meetings.

7. We urge the churches to interest the children in foreign mission work, and to give them some part of that work as set forth by Conference Board.

8. We urge that quarterly meetings and district associations, yearly meetings and state associations, arrange that some time at each session be devoted to a mission meeting in which mission work as devised and carried on by Conference Board shall be presented, care being taken to urge the adoption of the card system of Conference Board in all the churches.

9. Inasmuch as there are in the field but five men to fourteen women, and the need is of men, therefore we urge that we should husband our resources to meet the demands for men missionaries.

10. *Resolved*, That no change in the authority for the management of mission affairs in India is advisable at this time.

11. That we favor the establishment of a mission in Africa under such arrangements as Conference Board shall be able to make.

12. That concerning a mission in the West Indies we have no recommendation to make, but suggest that Conference Board be and hereby is authorized to act at its discretion in the matter.

13. Inasmuch as there is a sad lack in men and means for the work in India, and there is great indifference to this lack while it is imperative that the missionary force and means be at once largely increased, and further that the demands for home missions are increasing; and inasmuch as it is proposed to enlarge the field of foreign mission operations; therefore,

Resolved, That the best prosecution of our denominational work requires that the home mission and educational departments be separated from that of the foreign-mission department in the following respects; namely, that a field secretary be elected to devote himself to the interests of the former two, and another field secretary be elected to devote himself to the interests of the latter.

That Conference Board be authorized to make this change and to provide for the carrying on of the work hereafter in the manner herein indicated.

THOMAS H. STACY,
LIBBIE C. GRIFFIN,
O. R. BACHELER,
M. C. MINER,
ALBERTA M. ARMEL,
} *Committee.*

under appointment be employed
Board, at least one at a time, to
the foreign field, to promote syste
and to create a holy zeal among
the gospel to every creature.

At four o'clock a discussi
"Ministerial Qualifications,
Howe, D. D., dean of Co
minute addresses were giv
Ohio, Rev. J. C. Newman o
Gordon of Illinois, Rev. A
setts, Hon. Hiram Knowlto
Lowden of Rhode Island.

On motion voted a rece
Prayer was offered by Rev. J
after which the recess was ta

TUESDAY

Conference assembled at
adjournment, President Lord
offered by Rev. W. W. Harri

upon "The Church in the Country," and Rev. W. J. Twort of Massachusetts upon "The Practical Work of the Church in the City."

On motion of Chamberlain of New York, voted to adjourn to to-morrow morning at nine o'clock.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

OCEAN PARK, OLD ORCHARD, ME., Wednesday, Aug. 31, 1898.

Pursuant to adjournment Conference assembled at nine o'clock, President Lord in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Rev. R. Dunn, D. D., of Michigan. The roll was called and a quorum ascertained to be present.

The minutes of yesterday's sessions were read and approved.

Waterman of Vermont moved that names of all persons not receiving votes sufficient for election to Conference Board be omitted from the records. Voted.

Anthony of Maine asked a suspension of the rules and presented a resolution relating to the appointment of a committee on Ministerial Record, which was referred to the special committee on Papers.

Ball of New York asked for suspension of the rules and presented a resolution relating to the publication of a ministerial magazine, which was referred to the committee on Denomination.

On motion of Brown of Maine, voted that the clerk and Anthony of Maine be a committee to prepare and publish the Minutes of this session of General Confer-

constitution, which
the publication of

I propose the followir
In the third line am
the word "whose."
In the fifth line amer
the word "thousand."
Also by adding to said
be taken from the last *R*
shall read as follows:
"Art. 4. Each Yearly
Conference shall be entitle
every Yearly Meeting or *A*
municants amount to one t
and one delegate for each
members or major part ther
the last available informati
Year Book."

The treasurer, Rev. *A*
amount of the collection
lic service in th

o the resolution asking that a constitution for churches
d, the usages as given in the "Treatise" fully meet this

the item of records, the system of Rev. Z. A. Space is
d to the favorable consideration of the General Confer-
l.

resolution asking that the term "conference" be sub-
covenant meeting, yearly meeting, and quarterly meet-
rsely considered, and no action suggested.

esponse to the item on the relation of the church to
nizations made in the Field Secretary's report, the fol-
ffered:

s our Lord and Saviour committed to his church the
ork of evangelizing the world, and whereas the legal
n of the General Conference was effected for the special
f bringing our denominational benevolences more per-
line with this plan of our Lord to work by and through
; therefore,

, (1) That it is the duty of our churches and the
f churches to reverently respect this method of service,
ct Sunday schools, young people's societies, mission soci-
all other societies doing any part or parts of the work
to the church of Christ, including collection or disburse-
unds by such society or societies, and insist that such
be done under the auspices of the church and made to
the records of the respective churches, the associations
s and General Conference.

, (2) That the General Conference Board be requested
blanks suitable for churches to fill out which shall show
nt of money paid and given for all lines of Christian
enevolences.

GEO. H. BALL,
W. E. DENNETT,
J. W. SCRIBNER,
R. W. CHAMBERLIN,
} *Committee.*

ecial committee on Papers presented a report,
1 motion was adopted as read and placed on
e report was:

...ction to the

In compliance with th
mittee on Papers be dir
terial Record, whose du
Minutes of the 29th Co
28th Conference, p. 13,"
of Massachusetts, G. H.
Michigan.

Signed,

The committee on
report, and on motion

The last General Conferer
committee on Program to g
the Sunday-school work.
than has in the past been
action on this subject in all p

The first, in 1827, took no

The second (1828) appoi
chairman. Report as follows:
convinced of the utility of S
pendent of any other, and hav

The seventh (1833) appointed a committee, David Marks chairman. Report as follows: "Heard the report of the committee on the request from the Kennebec Yearly Meeting in relation to a Sabbath-school Union, and agreed that the publishing committee and book agent be instructed to act as a Sabbath-school Union for the connection, until further measures shall be taken by the Conference on the subject."

The eighth appointed no committee, but the circular letter contains the following reference: "Sabbath schools have been established in many of our churches, and some interest manifested by some of our brethren; but for want of more general and united exertions they have not been attended with that uniform success that is desirable. But with suitable effort on the part of the friends of Zion we shall expect soon to see flourishing Sabbath schools in every part of the connection."

The ninth (1837) appointed committee on Sabbath school and Temperance, Thomas Perkins chairman. Report, in part, as follows:

"*Resolved*, (1) That we regard the Sabbath-school cause as a bright harbinger of the millennial day, that era of glory on earth in which all shall know the Lord, from the least to the greatest.

"*Resolved*, (2) That as a connection generally we should engage more actively and extensively in the cause of Sabbath schools; and that our Sabbath-school Union should receive such donations of its funds as will enable it to enter upon enlarged operations."

The tenth (1839), and I believe every subsequent Conference, appointed a standing committee, A. K. Moulton chairman. Report in full as follows: "Your committee report that as many of our most prominent members and several quarterly and yearly meetings in our beloved connection have taken a decided stand in favor of Sabbath schools, and as the denomination in a body is known to be decidedly in favor of such institutions, we deeply regret that individual churches and members are, in some instances, almost entirely inactive in relation to this great enterprise, and that little has been done on this subject since the last session of the General Conference. There are some worthy members in our connection, who are fond of the other means of grace and of family instruction, who are decidedly opposed to Sabbath schools. But,

at the foundation of o

"*Resolved*, (1) Tha
institution of Sabbath
with which the church
from the consideration
places it under the in

"*Resolved*, (2) That
to take immediate and e
Sabbath schools in their
suitable libraries."

The twelfth (1844), A

"That, in our opinion, t
attention of every indivi
young, cannot perform for
labor to interest them in
can the young perform for

"*Resolved*, That that ch
maintain an efficient Sabb
limits is guilty of neglecting
grace with which God has be

The thirteenth (1847), N
follows:

"*Resolved*, That one of th
the prosperity of Sabbath sch
indifference of parents

esolved, That, in view of the vast responsibilities of Sabbath-l teachers in giving direction to youthful minds and in mold-heir character, it is their duty to prepare themselves as fully eir work as circumstances will allow, and be punctual in their lance and faithfulness in their work.

esolved, That so much dignity and importance are attached to abbath-school cause it ought to secure the attendance and co-operation of all the church and congregation, irrespective e.

esolved, That in all cases the Sabbath school should be contin-rough the whole year."

fifteenth, G. W. Bean chairman, report in part as follows:

esolved, That it is an institution of paramount importance, and reat care should be exercised to render its influence decidedly elical.

esolved, That the systematic benevolence inculcated in some of hools is a cheering feature of their usefulness, and we recom-that all our Sabbath schools adopt some system that shall develop this grace in the youth of our denomination."

sixteenth (1856), M. H. Abbey chairman, report in part as s:

esolved, That we recommend the appointment of a committee ee to select a list of books as large as in their judgment subserve the interests of our Sabbath schools, and publish st in *The Morning Star*.

esolved, That we request all the pastors in our denomination to h on the subject of Sabbath schools on the first Sabbaths in nd November annually, and take collections for their support.

esolved, That in order to promote greater efficiency in our ith schools, parents ought to take a deeper interest in them, nly by allowing or encouraging their children to attend, but ntifying themselves with the school, either as teachers or rs."

eighteenth (1862), A. H. Chase chairman, report as follows:

t not a single church can reasonably expect God to prosper it eglects to sustain an efficient Sabbath school. That we rec-nd every quarterly meeting in our denomination to form y-school Unions and hold a convention every year for the se of creating an interest and obtaining a statistical report

Sunday-school teac
fied for their work; and we recon
meetings and the forming of norm
Bible and the better preparation for
gained by Sabbath-school instructio
dren. That the first qualification
this end is the entire consecratio
the success of Sunday-school labor
the selection of teachers possessing

The twenty-second (1874), John
following resolution in relation to Su

"*Resolved*, That we recommend o
to make larger outlays in this dire
great care to make their libraries a tr
a high order."

The twenty-third (1877), recom
yearly meetings to devote some portic
sideration of Sunday-school interests.
Sunday school adopt the following
solemnly promise to abstain from the
as a beverage, from the use of tobac
profanity.'"

The twenty-fourth (1880), J. B. D
lows: "We would recommend that C
Sunday in

twenty-sixth (1886), G. C. Waterman chairman, report in
follows: "That we believe the Sunday-school lesson helps
ied by the F. B. Printing Establishment to be unsurpassed by
w before the public, and we earnestly urge all our pastors
urches to use them in their Sunday schools."
did not have the minutes of the 27th, 1889.

twenty-eighth (1892), Mrs. S. A. Porter chairman, com
normal study, summer assemblies, temperance, systematic
olence, home department, using our own publications.

twenty-ninth (1895), J. W. Parsons chairman, report in
of evangelism, temperance, missions, more use of Bible in
hool, home department, and, last but not least, that General
rence give more time to the Sunday-school work.

Your committee of this thirtieth Conference would empha-
l these resolutions adopted by General Conference for the
venty years, and especially those in relation to consideration
nday-school interests in quarterly and yearly meetings; punc-
ttendance of both teachers and scholars; responsibility of
ts and church-members; improved qualifications of teachers
ing in mind that the main object in all S. S. work is the con-
n of the scholar); the use of our own publications; the
temperance pledge; one Sabbath each year devoted wholly
S. interests; Normal Bible study; home department; attend-
upon teachers' meetings, S. S. conventions, and summer as-
ies; more use of Bible and less use of quarterlies and ques-
ooks in the class; publishing lists of good library books.
ical reports, etc.

In addition to all these excellent resolutions your committee
l call especial attention to the importance of the primary
rtment, and urge every school, large and small, to organize
ame immediately.

We would also recommend that the Conference Board be
cted to take under consideration the question of the appoint-
of a general S. S. secretary and the preparation of S. S.
reports for the use of schools, quarterly and yearly meetings.

We would also remind the Young People's Society, the
gest of the three blessed children of the church born this

work.

We also recommend that Su
time each year, for promotion f

Report of the committ
sented and accepted as re

Recognizing the Bible as th
infallible guide in correct think
comfort and inspiration of the
life; therefore

Resolved, 1. We approve an
legitimate agencies to increase it
the world.

2. We heed with joy the in
searches and new discoveries
authority over the minds and hea

3. We especially note with pl
the study of the Bible is made
colleges and other institutions of

The report of the committ

In regard to the request of Rev. John Ph. Snyder for the recognition of himself and the church at Williamsville, Del., it appears from his letter that said church was received into the Eastern Penn. Association at its last session, and this is all the recognition that is necessary. As to his personal recognition, this also is the business of the Association with which he is connected, and we suggest that his case be referred to the committee on Ministerial Records.

R. R. KENNAN,
S. WAKELY,
C. O. CLARK,
} *Committee.*

The report of the committee on Doctrine was presented, and on motion adopted as read.

1. *Resolved*, That the history of Christianity has proved that, though truth is unchangeable, men's conceptions of truth are partial, imperfect, and should be progressive, and that the Christianity of any age considered as a system of doctrine is the conception of that age, and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, who is ever working in believers to guide them into all truth, both the conception of Christianity as a doctrine and its practical interpretation by life are expected to be better in each age of Christian progress.

2. *Resolved*, Therefore, that the duty of Free Baptists is not only to welcome new conceptions of truth from those whose lives interpret the spirit of Christianity, but to expect by means of such conceptions to approach nearer and nearer to the perfect apprehension and representation of the character and the thought of Christ.

3. *Resolved*, Further, that, though modifications of doctrinal conceptions have come since the days of the fathers, they are not to be taken as signs of doctrinal apostasy nor of deterioration, nor is there at this time call for any change in the language of our confession of faith nor in our Treatise on doctrine, but only for liberty and charity in their interpretation and use.

4. *Resolved*, That the leaflet on "Baptism" issued by Brethren Mawhorter and Howell is worthy to be approved and commended to pastors and to the consideration of the Publishing House.

B. F. HAYES,
J. H. ROBERTS,
W. A. MYERS,
} *Committee.*

water)."

Schleusner: "Baptize, properly
water."

Search the scr

BAPTISM AS TA

1. Baptism sanctioned by Christ'
3: 21.

2. Baptism appointed an ordinan
20; Mark 16: 15, 16.

3. Proper subjects for baptism.
46–48; 16: 14, 15, 29–34; 18: 8.

4. Mode of baptism. Matt. 3: 5,
12; Rom. 6: 3–5.

5. Why did John at times baptize

NOTE.—Would we not suppose, then,
Yes. Would it require much wa

6. Does baptism take place in the
7. Do the candidate and administra
8. Does the baptism of the Spirit e
21, 22; Acts 8: 12–17; 10: 44–48.

9. What should precede baptism?
16: 15, 16; Acts 8: 35–37.

NOTE.—Are infants capable of repenti
need of repentance?

10. Design of baptism. Mark 16:
11. Baptism a memorial or likeness

NOTE.—What is the only mode of b

EARLY CHRISTIAN FATHERS.

Justin Martyr: "We represent our Lord's sufferings and resurrection by baptism in a pool." Ques. 13: 7.

Tertullian: "We are immersed in water; let down into the water and dipped. Peter immersed in the Tiber."

Chrysostom, A. D. 398: "To be baptized and sunk and then arise out of it again is a symbol of our descent into the grave and our ascent from thence, and therefore Paul calls baptism a burial." Hom. 40.

PEDOBAPTIST HISTORIANS.

Bretschneider: "An entire immersion belongs to the nature of baptism." Chr. Review, Vol. III., pp. 96, 101.

Neander: "Baptism was originally by immersion." Ib.

Philip Schaff, D. D., Prof. Ch. Hist., Union Theol. Sem., New York, says: "The baptism of Christ in the Jordan and the illustrations of baptism used in the New Testament are all in favor of immersion rather than of sprinkling, as is freely admitted by the best exegetes, Catholic and Protestant, English and German. Nothing can be gained by unnatural exegesis. The persistency and aggressiveness of the Baptists have driven pedobaptists to the opposite extreme."

Agusti: "The word baptism according to etymology and usage signifies to immerse, submerge." Chr. Review, Vol. III., pp. 96, 101.

PEDOBAPTIST THEOLOGIANS.

Martin Luther: "The other thing which belongs to baptism is the sign, or the sacrament, which is immersion in water, from whence also it derives its name; for baptize in Greek is *mergo* (immerse, in Latin), and baptism is immersion. . . . Baptism is a sign both of death and resurrection. Being moved by this reason, I would have those who are to be baptized to be altogether dipped into the water, as the word doth express and the mystery doth signify." Vol. 2 of his works, pp. 272, 273.

Adam Clarke, D. D., on Rom. 6: 4: "It is probable that the apostle here alludes to the mode of administering baptism by immersion."

Calvin: "The very word baptize, however, signifies to immerse, and it is certain that immersion was the practice of the primitive church." Inst., c. xv., p. 343.

Dr. Knapp: "Immersion is peculiarly agreeable to the institution of Christ and to the practice of the apostolic church; and so even John baptized, and immersion remained common for a long time after." Ch. Theology, p. 486.

Reasoning from the Bible, from history, and from experience, what must be the honest conclusion as to what baptism is? The immersion of a believer in water by a person that believes in it.

...would not to
larger than any of its pa
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any command from our
to engage in any service
Regarding the resolutic
recommend that it be ado
The resolution is as foll

"Inasmuch as the wor
importance,
"*Resolved*, That all de
throughout all sessions of
they do not absent themse
under absolute necessity."

In the matter of the ac
cluding the Angola Q. M
Rev. H. M. Ford be requ
said Association and repor
ference Board.
We urge the importance
for the sake of uniformit
recommend that the Confe
program each year for Chil
Regarding the question

recommend that the resolutions relating to a joint committee
erence of this Conference and the Woman's Missionary
r be adopted:

That for the sake of harmony and order a committee of
ice be appointed, consisting of three members, of which the
nt of this Conference shall be the chairman.

That the F. B. Woman's Missionary Society be asked to
t a like committee of reference of three members, making
r a joint committee.

That questions of mutual interest to General Conference and
B. Woman's Missionary Society, especially such questions as
the cause of misunderstandings between the two bodies, be
l to this joint committee, and that its recommendations be-
perative as soon as approved by the General Conference
and by the board of the F. B. Woman's Missionary Society,
heir executive committees.

reas we look with favor upon the rising tide of missionary
in the churches, and whereas specific instructions seem to
led in order to utilize this interest for the benefit of home
eign missions; therefore,

ved, That we recommend the creation of a missionary
tee in every church, whose duty it shall be to collect money,
nate missionary influence, and inculcate the missionary
And we would further suggest that the church in which
s a woman's mission society co-operate with such society
ational work along general missionary lines.

ved, That we send cordial greetings, so far as practicable,
r bodies in agreement with us in doctrine—such as the
n Baptists, Separate Baptists, Church of God—and recom-
he sending of fraternal delegates to the Free Baptist con-
s of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and that we express
g desire that these last two mentioned bodies may yet be-
n organic part of this General Conference of Free Baptists
gate bodies on the same basis of representation as other
ed bodies are represented.

ved, That in view of the alarming invasion of the Lord's
worldly work and amusements, this Conference would utter
st against whatever would break down a proper respect for
servance of the day, such as selling of Sunday newspapers,
of railway trains and steamboats for business or pleasure,
ere exceptionally necessary. And we would hope for legis-
hat will preserve for us our sabbath.

On motion vote
upon this session of
Jordan of New Han
The report of the
sented, received, a
amended the report

Your committee recom
1. Continuance of the
2. That the faculty of
to incorporate in its curr
appointed by General Con
license in the several gra
candidates for license an
pursue these or higher cou
ordained.
3. That the

literature and exegesis; Rev. A. W. Anthony, A. M., professor of New Testament literature and exegesis; Rev. J. M. Davis, D.D., professor of homiletics and church polity; Rev. D. B. Reed, D. D., professor of ecclesiastical history; Rev. J. T. Ward, D. D., professor of ethics and apologetics.

5. That an appropriation of fifty dollars per year for the next three years be made for the purposes of the school.

6. That General Conference instruct the corresponding secretary to give in his triennial report a detailed statement concerning the work and condition of all our colleges, seminaries, and preparatory schools.

7. That General Conference advise all our preparatory schools, colleges, and seminaries to co-operate in plans and policies in such a way that students shall naturally be directed from the lower to the higher institution.

8. That at each session of the yearly meeting or association within the limits of which a college or preparatory school is situated the number of students sent from a lower to a higher institution shall be reported, together with other facts vital to the interests of the denomination.

9. Inasmuch as it appears from reports before this Conference that many of the ministers obtaining ordination are untrained in the prescribed courses of study, and that deficiencies in organization, work, and contributions are due to this lack of training, be it

Resolved, That our yearly meetings and ministers' conferences be exhorted to enter upon an active campaign for the better education of candidates for the ministry.

10. That Conference Board be asked to consider the desirability of so rearranging the blanks for church reports that young people of a church who are pursuing an advanced course of study shall be reported, and the name of the institution at which they are studying.

11. That the denomination be asked to raise at least $2500 per year for the aid of students fitting for the ministry.

A. T. SALLEY,
A. W. ANTHONY,
W. W. HARRIS,
Z. A. SPACE,
} *Committee.*

On motion voted t
On motion of Metc
Pres. G. F. Mosher to
On motion of Jacks
we adjourn it be to tw
On motion of Web
and place of meeting o
referred to Conference
On motion voted t
upon this session of C
Knowlton of Maine.
Prayer was offered
Island, after which, on

WEDNES

Conference assemble
adjournment, President
Prayer was offered by

The committee take pleasure in reporting that during this session of General Conference we have received and been addressed by Rev. Joseph McLeod, D. D., editor of the *Religious Intelligencer*, who represented the Free Baptists of New Brunswick.

A letter was received from the American Christian Convention, stating they had elected Rev. B. S. Batchelor, Rev. C. A. Tillinghast, D. D., and Rev. P. A. Canada as messengers to this body. Messengers not present.

Rev. W. H. Fultz of Maine, who was appointed to represent General Conference in the Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia, reported inability to attend.

The report of the committee on Temperance was presented, received, and considered item by item. As amended it was adopted as follows:

Whereas we recognize the terrible evils of intemperance, and the unspeakable suffering it brings upon the innocent as well as the guilty; and whereas it is the greatest source of social and political corruption and forms the greatest obstacle to the spread of Christ's kingdom in our own as well as in other lands; therefore, *Resolved*—

1. That we favor the observance among our churches of the fourth Sunday in November as Temperance day.

2. That ten delegates be appointed to represent us without expense to the Conference at the next national convention, to be held at Cleveland, O., Dec. 6–8, 1898.

3. That we respectfully ask President McKinley to abolish the army canteen, and that this request, signed by the president and secretary of General Conference, be forwarded to him without delay.

4. That, since the only true and effective way of dealing with the liquor traffic by legislation is by unconditional prohibition, we express it as the sense of this Conference that any man or party not pledged to such prohibition as unworthy of and ought not to receive the support and votes of Free Baptists.

J. E. ABRAMSON,
J. MANTER,
L. W. GILMAN,
} *Committee.*

On motion voted that the chair appoint a special committee to nominate the ten delegates to the Anti-

elected :

Rev. W. A. Myers, Re
Rev. G. H. Ball, Rev. D. I
Salley, Rev. J. A. Sutton.

The chair announce
Conference with the W
of New York (elected
and Ford of Michigan.

The report of the
presented, received,
adopted as read. The

1. We hereby request t
Publishing House to prepa
License and Ordination fo
recommend for their consid
the New Hampshire Yearly M

2. We request the *Morn*
the eloquent sermons deliver
Boston and Salley of Hillsdale
best.

5. In the publisher's report of the Printing Establishment the attention of Conference is called to the large increase in doubtful assets as represented by the two items, "delinquent subscriptions, $9675.61" (an increase of $1486 over that reported three years ago), and "miscellaneous or book accounts, $11,855.65" (an increase of $3253, or an aggregate increase of doubtful assets of $4739), counting which the report shows a net gain of $1538.99. In view of the fact that this class of assets should be reckoned at a heavy discount, actual valuation would probably disclose the fact that the Printing Establishment has scarcely held its own during the past three years, and your committee is of the opinion that the sum of $21,531.26, the aggregate of back subscriptions and book accounts, is a larger percentage of the annual volume of transactions than is consistent with healthy business conditions. Submitted for information of the Conference.

R. M. LAWRENCE,
G. L. WHITE, } *Committee.*

Hayes of Maine presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That our ministers and pastors be advised, in their study of the Scriptures, to use in connection with other helps the Revised Version of both the Old and the New Testament.

Chase of Maine presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

Voted, That the Conference Board be instructed to take measures to insure, so far as may be practicable, the placing of a copy of the Minutes of this Conference in the hands of every pastor in our denomination and clerks of yearly meetings and quarterly meetings.

On motion of Gerrish of Massachusetts one of the items of the report of the committee on Finance, which yesterday was rejected, was reconsidered, referred to a special committee, consisting of Gerrish of Massachusetts and Anthony of Maine, and adopted as follows:

On motion voted to excus
further attendance upon this s

On motion voted that whe
seven o'clock this evening.

Prayer was now offered b
Massachusetts, after which rece

WEDNESDAY E

At seven o'clock Conference
ance with vote, President Lord

Prayer was offered by Rev.
Maine. Records of the afternoo
approved.

The discussion of the evening
the first topic was " The Bible i
by Rev. Lewis Malvern of Por
was " The Bible in College and
Rev. E. C. Hayes, dean of Keul

The committee on Cl . . .

action of business during our session; t.
nd Maine Central railroads for liberal re.
from the Conference; to our esteemed presi.
r their unfailing courtesy and patience in the dis.
devolving upon them; to the Rev. E. P. Moulton,
cal director; to Mrs. Dexter, Mrs. Houston, Mrs. Be.
ers who have contributed to furnish a pleasing variety
nusic; to Mrs. Howard and all who have assisted her
; the Temple; to Bro. A. R. Leighton of Haverhill,
ie gift of a profusion of beautiful flowers for use on
l finally to all who have in any way contributed to our
and enjoyment during this session.

That we recognize with profound gratitude the good-
ghty God in watching over our lives while here, and in
us in so large a measure health and strength sufficient
t; that we deeply sympathize with those who have
way during the session by illness or other misfortunes,
y pray that our Heavenly Father will sanctify to them
es through which they are passing.

ch is respectfully submitted.

G. C. WATERMAN,
MARIE C. STILLMAN,
JOHN L. SANDERS,
} *Committee.*

vote upon the report was taken closing re-
e made by Chase of Maine, Ball of New York,
Maine, Erskine of New Hampshire, and
Lord.

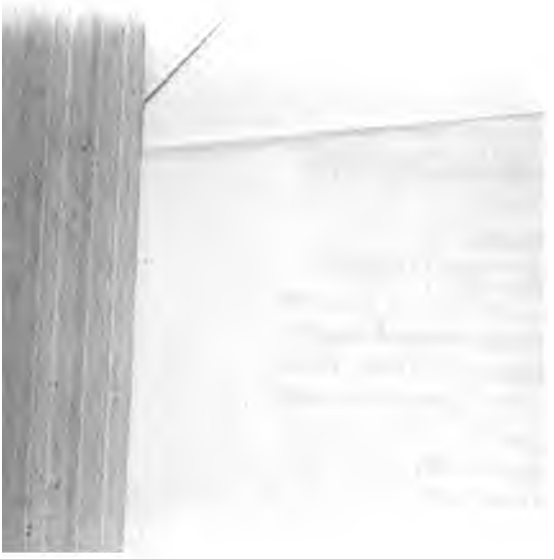
tion of Miner of Wisconsin the resolutions
imously adopted by a rising vote.

ords of the evening were read and approved.

prayer was offered by Pres. G. F. Mosher,
Hillsdale College, Michigan.

ion of Webb of Maine, voted to adjourn with-

N. S. PURINTON, *Clerk Gen. Conf.*
ELLEN A. COPP, *Assistant Clerk.*
EDWARD P. METCALF, *Assistant Clerk.*



APPENDIX.

CHARTER.

State of Maine.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE.

AN ACT to incorporate the General Conference of Free Baptists.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:

SECTION 1. Oren B. Cheney, George H. Ball, Laura A. DeMeritte, Clarence A. Bickford, Nathan C. Brackett, Emeline S. Burlingame, Amanda M. Pendleton, Ethnan W. Porter, Orin D. Patch, George F. Mosher, John T. Ward, Richard M. Lawrence, Lewis W. Anthony, Ellen A. Copp, Alpheus W. Gates, Rufus Deering, Elizabeth Colley, Arthur Given, J. Burnham Davis, Cyrus H. Latham, DeWitt C. Durgin, Eliza M. Jackson, George A. Gordon, Henry J. Brown, Emily L. Marshall, Oscar E. Baker, Charles S. Perkins, their associates and successors, are hereby constituted a corporation for religious, missionary, educational, and charitable purposes under the name of the General Conference of Free Baptists, and by that name shall have power to prosecute and defend suits at law, to use a common seal and to change the same at pleasure, to take and hold for the objects of said corporation, by gift, grant, bequest, purchase, or otherwise, any estate, real or personal or both, the annual income of which shall not exceed one hundred thousand dollars, and to sell and convey any estate, real or personal or both, which the interests of said corporation may require to be sold and conveyed.

porations.

SEC. 3. The persons
members of the said Ger
members thereof only unt
ized under a constitution
this act; and from and
shall be thus organized th
as may be chosen delega
and other bodies compos
persons as the said Conf
which they may from time

SEC. 4. The said Gene
be called the Conference B
as the Conference may de
be delegated to act for an
meeting of the Conference

SEC. 5. The said Gene
meetings for the choice of
part of the United States
meetings in any foreign co
of the United States of Am
exception of their clerk or
a citizen of the United State

SEC. 6. The Freewill

by authorized and empowered to transfer and deliver to the
ieral Conference of Free Baptists all their real and personal
and estate, and all their powers, privileges, rights, and
ies, to be held and used by the said Conference for the
s mentioned in this act; and upon such transfer and deliv-
:he powers, privileges, rights, and immunities of the said
shall be vested in the said General Conference of Free

'. The Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society, incor-
by an act approved January twenty-six, eighteen hundred
ity-three, are hereby authorized and empowered to transfer
ver to the said General Conference of Free Baptists all
l and personal property and estate, and all their powers,
s, rights, and immunities, to be held and used by the said
ice for the purposes mentioned in this act, and upon such
and delivery all the powers, privileges, rights, and immuni-
ie said society shall be vested in the said Conference.

3. The said General Conference shall have the right to
l use for the purposes mentioned in this act all the real and
property and estate, and shall be entitled to all the powers,
s, rights, and immunities of the Freewill Baptist Home
Society, a corporation existing under the laws of the state
Hampshire by an act approved June twenty-eight, eighteen
and thirty-eight, and amended by an act approved June
even, eighteen hundred and fifty-nine, and amended again
ct approved July five, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven,
r the said society, being duly authorized by the said state
Hampshire, shall transfer and deliver the same.

). The said General Conference shall have the right to
l use for the purposes mentioned in this act all the real and
property and estate, and shall be entitled to all the powers,
s, rights, and immunities of the Freewill Baptist Education
a corporation existing under the laws of the state of New
ire, by an act approved July seven, eighteen hundred and
and amended by an act approved June twenty-nine,
hundred aud seventy, entitled " An Act in amendment of
to incorporate the Freewill Baptist Education Society,"

designated in the making o
conveyances, and shall be
and uses contained in the
veyances to said societies.

SEC. 11. Whenever the
transfer their property to th
shall have the right to hold
this act the property that
the sum of personal and real
one of this act.

SEC. 12. If at the time
and personal property and
one of them to the said Gen
any other time, the said so
property, gifts, bequests, or d
societies or any one of ther
property thus held for the
gifts, bequests, devises, or co

SEC. 13. It shall not be
mentioned in the first section
tute a quorum for the accept
ence shall have the right to fi
rum from time to time, and a
quorum of their Conference B

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Jan. 19, 1891.
This bill, having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.
BENJAMIN F. CHADBOURNE, *Speaker pro tem.*

IN SENATE Jan. 19, 1891.
This bill, having had two several readings, passed to be enacted.
CHARLES F. LIBBY, *President.*
Approved Jan. 19, 1891.
EDWIN C. BURLEIGH, *Governor.*

STATE OF MAINE,
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE.

I hereby certify that the paper to which this is attached is a true copy of the original deposited in this office.

In testimony whereof I have caused the seal of the state to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at Augusta this twentieth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one, and in the one hundred and fifteenth year of the independence of the United States of America.

S. J. CHADBOURNE, *Deputy Secretary of State.*

{SEAL}

AN ACT authorizing the Free
and the Freewill Baptist E
property and rights to the Gen

Be it enacted by the Senate and
eral Court convened:

SECTION 1. The Freewill Bap
poration created by the laws of t
twenty-eight, eighteen hundred
Baptist Education Society, a corp
state by an act approved July se
six, are hereby authorized and em
the General Conference of Free
the legislature of the state of Ma
nineteen, eighteen hundred and
personal property and estate, and
rights to be held and used by s
Baptists, for religious, missiona
purposes.

SEC. 2. All property held by s
sion Society and said Freewill Ba
gifts, bequests, devises, and conv

said societies respectively, and upon such transfer and delivery the powers, privileges, and rights of said societies respectively shall be vested in said General Conference of Free Baptists.

SEC. 3. If at the time of the transfer and delivery of the real and personal property and estate of said societies to said General Conference of Free Baptists either of the said societies holds any property, gifts, bequests, or devises which are not transferable, said societies shall continue to hold and use the property thus held by them respectively for the purpose designated in the making of the gifts, bequests, devises, or conveyances of property thus held.

SEC. 4. This act shall take effect on its passage.

FRANK G. CLARK, *Speaker House of Reps.*
JOHN MCLANE, *President of Senate.*

Approved Feb. 18, 1891.

HIRAM A. TUTTLE, *Governor.*

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,
SECRETARY'S OFFICE, CONCORD,
March 2, 1892.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original act as filed in this office.

In testimony whereof I hereunto subscribe my official signature and affix the seal of the state.

C. B. RANDLETT, *Deputy Secretary of State.*

{ SEAL }

ARTICLE I. The G
composed of delegates
General Conference of
America,* together with
ing an evangelical faith,
atonement, the necessit
lievers as the only scrip
Christians, as may be ad
vote at any regular meeti

* The General Conference o
ica is composed of the followi
Yearly Meeting, the Maine
Meeting of Free Baptists, t
Rhode Island Free Baptist A
Island Free Baptist Associatio
Meeting, the Genesee Freew
Freewill Baptist Yearly Mee
Meeting, the Union Freewill
Free Baptist Yearly Meeting,
tion, the Ohio and Pennsylvani
Ohio Freewill Baptist Yearly
ing, the Ohio River Freewill B
Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeti
Meeting, the Indiana Freewil
Baptist Association, the Illinois
Illinois Freewill Baptist Yearly
Yearly Meeting, the Wisconsin
sota Freewill Baptist Yearly M
ing, the Nebraska Yearly Mee
Freewill Baptist Yearly Meetin
Meeting, the Southern Kansas
Gate Free Baptist

ART. 2. The object of this Conference shall be to devise and execute measures for the extension of the kingdom of Christ in connection with the various bodies herein represented.

ART. 3. This Conference shall have authority to apportion to the yearly meetings and associations a due ratio of the amount necessary to prosecute the denominational work, and to ask contributions from yearly meetings or associations, quarterly meetings, churches, and individuals, as occasion may require. Gifts and bequests to the various denominational societies shall become the property of this Conference, and be held in trust for the special objects for which they were given, when these societies, singly or severally, shall transfer their work to the Conference.

It shall have the right to discipline, and if necessary to exclude, any association, yearly meeting, or other body belonging to it; but in no case shall it have power to reserve or change the decisions of churches or quarterly meetings.

ART. 4. Each yearly meeting or association belonging to this Conference shall be entitled to representation by one delegate; and every yearly meeting or association whose church communicants amount to one thousand five hundred to two delegates and one delegate for each additional thousand church-members or major part thereof.

ART. 5. There shall be chosen by ballot from persons in good standing in the denomination, who may or may not be members of the Conference, a Conference Board, to consist of twenty-one members, at least one-third of whom shall be women, to which is hereby delegated full power to act for and in behalf of the Conference from one regular meeting of the Conference to another. At the election in 1898 said Board shall be elected for four years, or until July 1, 1902; and at each subsequent meeting of the Conference said Board shall be elected for three years from the time they enter upon the discharge of their duties, which shall be on July 1 in the year succeeding that of their election. The said Board shall have power to choose all needful officers, adopt all rules needful for its own government and to carry out the plans and undertakings of the Conference, make contracts, employ agents, authorize the

execution of legal papers, collect and appropriate funds, and exercise all the powers and functions of the General Conference not in conflict with its rules, resolutions, and directions. It shall keep a correct record of all its proceedings, make a full report at each regular session of the Conference, and be subject to and comply with all directions, requests, and regulations of the Conference. Nine members of this Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. All members of the Conference Board shall be members *ex officio* of the Conference.

ART. 6. The officers of this Conference shall be a president, two vice-presidents, a clerk, an assistant clerk, a treasurer, and an auditor, all to be chosen by ballot, who shall respectively hold office until the next regular Conference and until others shall be chosen and qualified in their stead. The clerk, assistant clerk, treasurer, and auditor may be chosen from persons who are not members of this Conference.

ART. 7. The president shall preside in all meetings of the Conference, and, unless it is otherwise ordered, appoint all the committees necessary to be appointed.

One of the vice-presidents shall preside in the absence of the president, and in the absence of both vice-presidents a president *pro tem.* shall be chosen.

The clerk and assistant clerk shall take the required oath of office before a magistrate, keep a true record of the doings of the Conference, and certify that the same is true.

The clerk shall be a resident of the state of Maine, and shall keep a clerk's office in said state in accordance with the laws thereof.

The treasurer shall give bonds satisfactory to the Conference Board, and shall receive and dispose of all moneys paid into the treasury under the direction of the Conference Board, and keep an accurate account of the same, and make a full report quarterly and at such other times as he shall be requested by the Board of the Conference, which report shall be published in at least two of the denominational papers. The treasurer shall be a member *ex officio* of the Conference.

auditor shall at least once a year make a careful examination accounts and vouchers of the treasurer, and submit the same Conference Board.

8. The president and treasurer shall sign all deeds, bonds, &c., and other papers by which the Conference is to become held.

9. Vacancies occurring by death, resignation, or otherwise delegation of any association, yearly meeting, or other body ng to the Conference, may be filled by the body in which ancy occurs in any way it may elect. Vacancies occurring Conference Board, or in any office of the Conference or of ference Board, shall be filled by the Conference Board.

10. A meeting of the General Conference, to be called by k or president, shall be held every third year, in August or ber, or at such time and place as the Conference or Conference Board may determine, the time and place being given in some published in the state of Maine, and in at least two of the national papers if such exist, at least ninety days before the holding said meeting. Special meetings at the direction of ference Board may be called in the same way, provided that hall be sent to each member of the Conference, post prerected to their last known address, thirty days before the holding such meeting.

11. Thirty-three members of the Conference shall constiuorum for the transaction of business, but a less number l to order and adjourn.

12. This constitution may be amended at any triennial by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided such ment has been proposed in writing at a previous session by a of the Conference, or proposed in writing at any time by ference Board, a yearly meeting, or an association, due f the proposed change or changes having been given at months beforehand in a paper published in the state of and in not less than two denominational papers if such

1. All persons declared by a
duly elected delegates to the Fre
to meet at Lowell, Mass., Oct. 5,
stituted members of this corporat
respects according to the provisio
by-laws under which this Confere

2. It shall be the duty of ever
other body belonging to the Conf
triennial meeting of the Confere
spiritual condition, its works of be
yearly meeting, association, or otl
ference, which shall fail to report
may be dismissed from the Confere
members present.

3. Each meeting of the Confer

4. At each regular session of
standing committees shall be appoi
trine, Church Polity, Education, S
Country, The Ministry, Publicatio
West, Foreign Missions, Requests,
Work, Bible Cause, Finance, Closin
duty of the Finance Commitee to as
managing

6. This Conference shall sit with open doors except when it may go into committee of the whole.

7. Any person not a member of this Conference may be allowed to take part in its discussions by obtaining permission of the Conference.

8. It shall be the duty of all the members of this Conference to be present at the time appointed for each meeting, and any one wishing to retire shall first obtain leave of the chair.

9. No member shall absent himself from Conference during its meetings without first obtaining permission from the Conference.

10. No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of any committee, provided the person nominated be elected.

11. The yeas and nays may be taken on any question by request of one-fifth of the members present.

12. No member of this Conference shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes, and but once on the same subject, without permission of the Conference.

13. These by-laws may be amended at any triennial session of the Conference by a two-thirds vote of the members present, and at any subsequent session by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

The following are the constitution and by-laws adopted by the Board:

CONSTITUTION.

1. The officers of this Board shall be a president, a vice-president, a recording secretary, corresponding secretary and treasurer, who shall be the treasurer of the General Conference, a field secretary, and an executive committee of seven, in which the president and recording secretary shall be included. These officers shall be elected at the annual meeting.

2. The president, vice president, recording secretary, and corresponding secretary and treasurer shall perform the usual duties of such officers. The field secretary shall act as an executive under the direction of the Board or of the executive committee. The

time and in such place a
There shall also be such
be called by the executiv

1. Each meeting of t
prayer.

2. Any member of th
ing of the Board shall rep
tary prior to the meeting.

3. No member shall a
meetings without obtainin
violating this rule shall for

4. The order of busine
follows:

1. Call to order.
2. Roll-call.
3. Prayer.
4. Reading minute
5. Reports of comm
6. Unfinished busin
7. Election of offic
8. New business.

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lex will render the foregoing pages available as a supple-
: "Digest of the General Conference Law," 1895.]

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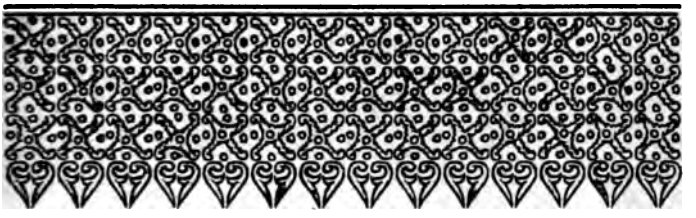
Minutes of the Thirty-first General Conference of Free Baptists



A. D. Nineteen Hundred and One

MINUTES

OF THE

Thirty-first

General Conference

OF

FREE BAPTISTS

HELD AT

HARPER'S FERRY, WEST VIRGINIA, SEPT. 4-10, 1901

BOSTON, U. S. A:
MORNING STAR PUBLISHING HOUSE
457 Shawmut Avenue
1902

General Conferences

	Time.	Days.	No. of Del'g.	Moderators.	
	Oct. 11, 1827.	4	20	Enoch Place	Hos
	9, '28.	4	35	Nathaniel King	"
	10, '29.	4	15	Henry Hobbs	J. M
	14, '30.	4	15	S. Hutchins	" "
	12, '31.	4	14	Benjamin Thorn	Hos
	10, '32.	4	21	S. B. Dyer	N. I
	9, '33.	6	24	S. Whitney	Hos
	7, '35.	7	24	" "	Silas
	4, '37.	6	25	J. M. Harper	"
	2, '39.	5	28	" " "	Wm.
	6, '41.	6	41	" " "	Silas
	2, '44.	7	53	J. Woodman	"
	6, '47.	10	51	" "	"
	2, '50.			Martin Chase	

Officers of the 31st General Conference

PRESIDENT

Rev. Rivington D. Lord, D.D.,
232 Keap St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Pres. G. C. Chase, D.D., LL.D., . . . Lewiston, Me.

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

Rev. Philip Graif, D.D., ... Hillsdale, Mich.

CLERK

Hon. N. S. Purinton, ... West Bowdoin, Me.

FIRST ASSISTANT CLERK

Hon. E. P. Metcalf, ... Providence, R. I.

SECOND ASSISTANT CLERK

Mrs. Helen Dunn Gates, ... Scranton, Pa.

TREASURER

Rev. Arthur Given, D.D., ... Auburn, R. I.

AUDITOR

James M. Paine, Esq., ... East Killingly, Conn.

D BODIES COMPOSING THE THIRTY-FIRST GENERAL CONFE

	DELEGATES.	NUMBER OF Q. M'S.	NUMBER OF CHURCHES.	NUMBER OF
. . .	Mrs. S. C. G. Avery, N. H.; Rev. N. C. Brackett, W. Va.; Pres. G. C. Chase, Me.; Mrs. E. B. Cheney, R. I.; Miss L. A. DeMeritte, N. H.; Rev. E. O. Dickinson, Iowa; Mrs. L. M. P. Durgin, Minn.; Rev. H. M. [illegible]			

	B. Jordan	17	238	181	13,488	. . .	789
Massachusetts	Rev. A. E. Wilson, Rev. B.M.Osgood, Mrs. A. L. Freeman	1	17	21	2,942	51	
Michigan	Rev. Philip Graif, Rev. G. B. Hopkins, Mrs. Alice L. Hulce, Rev. J.D. McColl, Hon. G. F. Mosher, H.S.Myers	15	109	103	5,849	. . .	251
Minnesota	Rev. R. R. Kennan, Dea. A. G. Hall	5	36	39	2,019	. . .	31
Mississippi ‡		5	42	85	1,957	23	
Missouri, Northeastern ‡		2	9	12	436	. . .	276
Missouri, Northwestern ‡		3	11	13	796	649	
Missouri, Southeastern		2	15	16	850	85	
Missouri, Southwestern	Rev. N. C. Jones	2	8	8	400	. . .	100
Missouri, Western		2	18	32	880	219	
Mt. Moriah, Ala ‡		1	11	. . .	697		
Nebraska	Rev. J. H. Wolfe	7	85	24	599	. . .	53
Nebraska, Central ‡		2	7	4	116		
Nebraska, Northern		2	10	8	221	. . .	20
New Hampshire	Rev. E. W. Ricker, Rev. J. Erskine, Rev. J. S. Harrington, Rev. A. W. Bradeen, Rev. A. B. Howard, Rev. A. C. Keith, Rev. F. L. Wiley, Rev. T. J. Winslade	8	100	101	7,763	. . .	632
New York Central	Rev. W. R. Wood, Rev. J. B. Coy, Rev. H. H. Baker	6	34	29	2,690	422	
New York & Penn.	Rev. T. A. Stevens, G. H. Freeman	5	31	35	1,557	. . .	142
Ohio	Rev. L. F. Sherritt	2	9	7	392	. . .	64
Ohio, Central	Rev. J. W. Wynn, Rev. R. W. Chamberlin	5	26	14	1,767	. . .	151
Ohio & Penn.	Rev. R. E. Benjamin, Rev. C. H. Searles	5	35	27	2,089	9	
Ohio River	Rev. R. J. Posten, Rev. S. Fulton, Rev. T. Lasley	6	43	34	2,704	. . .	1,625
Ohio & Kentucky ‡		3	26	18	1,159	23	
Ontario, Can. ‡		1	4	2	194		
Pennsylvania ‡							
Penn., Eastern		1	5	6	306	155	
Penn., Western		3	10	9	367	. . .	210
Pleasant Hill, Mo. ‡		1	3	4	138		
Prosperity, Mo.		2	5	8	306	4	
Rhode Island	Rev. J. N. Rich, Dea. J. D. Hubbard, Rev. E. G. W. Wesley, Miss M. E. Jackson, J. M. Paine	1	37	42	659 4,112	. . .	47

DIES COMPOSING THE THIRTY-FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE (

	Delegates.	Number of Q. M's.	Number of Churches.	N...
Va..	Rev. J. W. Jenkins	2	16	
. . .	. . . . .	2	10	
. . .	Rev. N. J. Ramsdell	2	13	
. . .	Rev. N. J. Shirey	4	23	
. . .	. . . . .	3	18	
. . .	. . . . .	2	. .	

COMMITTEES

STANDING COMMITTEES

Bible Cause.—Ricker of N. H., Benjamin of O., Glovier of Ill., Turner of Ky., Davis (J. B.) of Me.

Church Polity.—Miner of Wis., Erskine of N. H., Coy of N. Y., Chamberlin of O., McColl of Mich.

Closing Resolutions.—Graif of Mich., Hancock of Ill., Keith of N. H., Ramsdell of N. Y., Sherritt of O.

Correspondence.—Hopkins of Mich., Tobey of Me., Bradeen of N. H., Briggs of Vt., Freeman of N. Y.

The Country.—Mosher of Mich., Baker of N. Y., Mrs. Jordan of Me., Ricks of Ill.

Denomination.—Space of N. Y., Mrs. Avery of N. H., Comstock of Ia., Mrs. Sprague of Me., Hall of Minn.

Doctrine.—Dickinson of Ia., Rich of R. I., Howard of N. H., Mrs. Hulce of Mich., Osgood of Mass.

Education.—Chase of Me., Jordan (L. G.) of Me., Fulton (W. J.) of O., Paine of R. I., Stevens of N. Y.

Finance.—Freeman of Mass., Davis (E. E.) of Me., Winslade of N. H., Rendleman of Ill., Shirey of N. Y.

Foreign Missions.—Patch of N. H., Miss DeMeritte of N. H., Wesley of R. I., Mrs. Durgin of Minn., Ford of Mich.

Home Missions.—Myers of Mich., Wolfe of Neb., McColley of Ia., Lucas of Tenn., Miss Jordan of Me.

The Ministry.—Anthony of Me., Steele of Wis., Arter of Ill., Davis (W. M.) of Me., Dally of N. Y.

The New West.—Kennan of Minn., Tatum of Ill., Comber of Kan., Searles of O., Wainwright of W. Va.

Young People's Work.—Ha
Miss Files of Me., Mitchell of I

RETAINED

*Conference Board.**—Mrs. S.
Cheney of R. I., Miss Harriet
Meritte of N. H., Mrs. L. M.
Ford, D. D., of Mich., Rev. W.
D. D., of R. I., Rev. G. A. G
N. Y., Mrs. Alice L. Hulce of
R. R. Kennan of Minn., Rev.
T. J. Mawhorter of Ind., Hon.
Mosher, LL. D., of Mass., H. S.
of N. H., Rev. Z. A. Space of N

Ministerial Record.—Rev. F.
Ball, D. D., of N. Y., Hon. G. F.

Publishing Minutes.—N. S.
Me.

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* *Officers of Conference Board.*—P
N. H.; vice-president, Mrs. L. M.
recording secretary, Rev. H. M. Ford,
secretary and treasurer, Rev. Arthur
retary, Rev. H. M. Ford, D. D., Hill

PROGRAM

Tuesday, Sept. 3.—7.45 P. M., devotional service, asking God's blessing upon the Conference; leader, Rev. E. G. Wellesley-Wesley of Rhode Island.

Wednesday, Sept. 4.—8.00 A. M., devotional service; leader, Rev. J. C. Steele of Wisconsin. 9.00, Conference Board. 10.30, General Conference called. 2.00 P. M., General Conference; appointment of committees on credentials and seating; welcome to the Conference by Rev. N. C. Brackett; response by the president. 2.30, report of committees on credentials and seating; election of president, vice-presidents, clerk, and assistant clerks; reports of Conference Board, treasurer, field secretary, corresponding secretary, and standing committees. 7.30, praise service. 7.45, appointment of committees. 8.00, Conference sermon, by Rev. A. E. Wilson of Massachusetts.

Thursday, Sept. 5. (*United Society of Free Baptist Young People.*)—8.00 A. M., devotional service. 9.00, call to order; appointment of committees; reports of treasurer, general secretary, junior superintendent, and president. 10.00, address, "How Can We Fire Our Young People with a Purpose to Accomplish Evangelistic Work?," by Rev. C. E. McColley of Iowa. 10.30, service of prayer. 10.40, singing. 10.45, address, "The Work among the Mountain Whites," by Rev. J. W. Lucas of Tennessee. 11.20, singing. 11.25, missionary conference. 2.00 P. M., devotional service. 2.15, address, "How to Interest Children in Successful Missionary Work," by Mrs. F. S. Mosher of Michigan. 2.40, singing. 2.45, address, "The Work of Storer Graduates," by Prof. R. P. Sims of West Virginia. 3.10, singing. 3.15, address, "Efficiency in Christian Service," by Rev. J. B. Coy of New York. 3.45, singing. 3.50, report of council; election of officers. 7.00, prayer service. 7.30, praise service, conducted by Rev. R. R.

, report of publisher
4.00, paper, "What Free
by Rev. A. W. Jefferson of
minute addresses. 7.30, pr
President McKinley, condu
York.

Saturday, Sept 7.—8.00 A
J. J. Hull of Wisconsin. 9
2.00 P. M., business; recei
bodies; consideration of A
address, "The Value of the
H. Ball, D. D., of New York

Sunday, Sept. 8.—10.30 A
Minnesota. 12.00 M., Bible
mittee on necrology. 6.00,
subject, "Heavenly Helpers
service. 7.45, sermon by Re

Monday, Sept. 9.—8.00 A.
T. J. Mawhorter of Indiana
mittees. 2.00 P. M., busines
Conference; nominations fo
other officers. 7.30, praise
dresses by Prof. G. W. Lawr

[redacted]

State Work," by Rev. Z. A. Space of New York. 7.30, praise service. 7.45, foreign missions; address by Rev. C. C. Creegan, D. D., of New York, Secretary A. B. C. F. M.; final adjournment.

Wednesday, Sept. 11.—9.00 A. M., Conference Board. 2.00 P. M., Conference Board.

R. D. LORD,
E. P. METCALF,
LOU M. P. DURGIN,
Committee on Program.

MINUTES

The thirty-first session of the General Conference of Free Baptists was preceded by a devotional service, asking God's blessing upon the Conference, led by Rev. E. G. Wellesley-Wesley of Rhode Island, on Tuesday evening, September 3, 1901.

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., Wednesday, Sept. 4, 1901.

The thirty-first session of the General Conference of Free Baptists assembled at the Free Baptist church, Harper's Ferry, W. Va., and was called to order at 10.30 A. M., by the president, Rev. R. D. Lord, D. D., of Brooklyn, N. Y.

Prayer was offered by Rev. M. J. Coldren of India.

The official call of the Conference was then read by the clerk, Hon. N. S. Purinton, as follows:

MEETING OF GENERAL CONFERENCE

The regular triennial session of the General Conference of Free Baptists will be held in the Free Baptist church at Harper's Ferry in the State of West Virginia, on Wednesday, September 4, 1901, at 10.30 A. M,. for the following purposes, namely:

First.—To choose all officers required by the Constitution and By-Laws, and such other officers as may be deemed necessary to carry out the wishes of the Conference.

Second.—To take any action that may be regarded necessary to carry out the purposes and plans of the Conference.

Dated at Clerk's Office, at West
May, A. D. 1901.

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that I have p
the time and place of meeting of
Baptists in *The Morning Star* an
inational papers, also in *The Kenn*
at Augusta, in the County of Kenn
days before the meeting of said
being the legal notice required. (

Dated at West Bowdoin, Me., M
1901.

The clerk reported notices
amendments to the Constitut

1. Amend Article 5 of the Co
lines by striking out the words "a
be women."

Proposed at the last General Conference by Stillman of Rhode Island.

3. Amend Article 6 of the Constitution in the second line after the word "treasurer" by inserting the words "a field secretary."

Proposed by the Conference Board.

4. Amend Article 7 of the Constitution by adding the words, "The Field Secretary shall be the executive officer of the General Conference, acting under its direction and the direction of the Conference Board or of the Executive Committee."

Proposed by the Conference Board.

5. Amend Article 8 of the Constitution in the first line by striking out the words "president and."

Proposed by the Conference Board.

Amendments proposed to the By-Laws:

1. Amend Article 4 of the By-Laws of the General Conference by inserting after the words "closing resolutions" in the sixth line, the words "and on ministerial record, which last committee shall report at the next triennial session of the General Conference after its appointment."

Proposed at the last General Conference by Anthony of Maine.

2. Amend Article 4 of the By-Laws of the General Conference after the words "Conference Board" in the ninth line by adding the words, "Said committee may or may not be members of the General Conference."

Proposed by the Conference Board.

3. Amend Article 13 of the By-Laws of the General Conference so that it shall read as follows: "These By-Laws may be changed or amended at any meeting regularly called, by a two-thirds vote of those present, provided notice of the proposed change or amendment be inserted in the call for the meeting, or given at a meeting of the Conference previously held."

Proposed at the last General Conference by the committee on amendments.

Dated at Clerk's Office, at West Bowdoin, Me., this 8th day of February, A. D. 1901.

N. S. PURINTON,
Clerk of General Conference.

Published in the State of
meeting of said General C
the Constitution, the same
Dated at West Bowdoir
1901.

On motion of Wilson
hold the business sessio
Anthony Hall, Storer C
for addresses and disc
when we adjourn it be
the chapel.

On motion the chair
dentials: Webb of Mai
New York, Fulton (W.
New Hampshire.

On motion of Mine
pointed Brackett of V
Rhode Island a committ

Prayer was offered b

Scripture was read by President Lawrence of Parker College, and prayer was offered by Professor Anthony of Cobb Divinity School. "Coronation" ("All hail the power of Jesus' name") was sung by the Conference.

The address of welcome was given at this time by Rev. N. C. Brackett, Ph. D., of Harper's Ferry. President Lord responded in words which voiced the hearty reciprocation of every delegate present.

The committee on credentials now presented a partial report, showing a quorum present.

On motion of Chamberlin of New York, the report of the committe was accepted.

The report of the committee on seating delegates was given, and on motion of Graif of Michigan, adopted, and the delegates were seated in accordance therewith.

On motion of Anthony of Maine, the seating of a representative of the Bengal and Orissa Yearly Meeting was referred to the committee on credentials.

The committee on credentials submitted an additional report which was accepted item by item; and thereby the roll of Conference as given on pages 4–6 was adopted.

On motion of Chase of Maine, Rev. E. H. Turner of Nebraska was invited to a seat in Conference with the usual courtesies.

On motion of Anthony of Maine, the application for admission to Conference of the Union Free Baptist Association of Tennessee was referred to the committee on requests.

On motion of Erskine of New Hampshire, a ballot for president of Conference was ordered.

Brooklyn, N. Y., was un

On motion of Webb c
inate remaining officers
the chair, consisting of
(E. E.) of Maine, Ha
Miss Deering of Maine.

On motion of Wilson
as presented by the comm
subject to necessary chan

On motion of Brackett
Ball, D. D., of New Yor
ference with the usual co

The report of Confere
read by its recording secr
of Michigan. On motio
the report was accepted.

REPORT OF THE

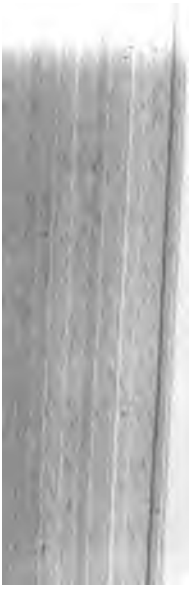
The business that has been d
the Executive Committee for t

since the last General Conference met at Ocean Park, Maine. The meetings usually have been fully attended by the members of the Board, and unusual harmony has prevailed. They have seen eye to eye, and have made the interests of the denomination their special care. They have laid aside their own work, and sometimes at a sacrifice in order to give the work of the denomination their special attention.

One of the most important and far-reaching movements inaugurated two years ago by the Board has been the Twentieth Century Loan Fund, by which up to this time ten thousand dollars ($10,000) has been received. This is a fund to loan to poor societies at a low rate of interest for the building of meeting-houses and parsonages. The money thus far received has been nearly all taken.

The plan is to increase this fund to a much larger proportion, say to fifty or one hundred thousand dollars, principally by bequests and wills and private donations, and any one who will give three thousand dollars may have the privilege of naming his fund, which shall be kept separate and a separate record made of its working. This movement ought to appeal to all our people, especially the business man, for it means the growth and perpetuity of our cause. We trust that the loan fund will grow from twenty-five to fifty thousand dollars during the next three years.

One of the most important policies inaugurated by the Board during the last three years was the new policy concerning appropriations, which provides that home mission funds should be used at strategic points where there is the strongest probability of success; that the Board shall have a voice in choosing pastors of missionary interests it is aiding; that the appropriation shall be made only one year at a time; that all appropriations cease at the end of three years, if the attempt fail (if the attempt is successful the appropriation at the end of three years shall begin to decline at the rate of twenty-five per cent); that any interest which is aided shall observe the four mission days, appoint a mission committee, raise ten per cent of its appropriation, and observe all the other General Conference rules; that the appropriation shall be considered as a loan and shall be given to build up material inter-



field in India Mr. and
returned Mrs. Dr. Phill
deficits.

We have appropriated
something like nine thou

The Board has found
Illinois, for the purpose o
has bought the building
and paid for it; provided
necessary furnishings; c
library and literature for
matter for the school, and
pointed an agent to secure
as trustees H. M. Ford, G
and Nelson Ricks.

The Board has created
which it may fall back, in
a Tract Committee which
continue it more vigorously

It has created a mission
pointing a missionary day i
tions once a month in our S
new policy of hearing pe

On motion of Anthony of Maine, so much of the report as relates to the reception of ministers from other denominations (which was given verbally) was referred to the committee on ministry.

The committee on nomination of officers reported as follows:

First vice-president, President G. C. Chase, D. D., LL. D., of Maine; second vice-president, Rev. Philip Graif, D. D., of Michigan; clerk, Hon. N. S. Purinton of Maine; first assistant clerk, Hon. E. P. Metcalf of Rhode Island; second assistant clerk, Mrs. Helen Dunn Gates of Pennsylvania.

A ballot was ordered and the persons nominated were unanimously elected.

The clerks were then sworn according to the following certificate:

HARPER'S FERRY, WEST VA., Sept. 4, 1901.

Personally appeared, N. S. Purinton of Maine, clerk of General Conference of Free Baptists, also E. P. Metcalf of Rhode Island, and Mrs. Helen Dunn Gates of Pennsylvania, assistant clerks of said General Conference, and took the required oath of office.

Given under my hand this 4th day of September, 1901.

CHARLES H. BRIGGS, *Notary Public.*

The report of the Field Secretary, Rev. H. M. Ford, D. D., was now submitted, and on motion of Wynn of Ohio was received and ordered on file. The report was as follows:

REPORT OF THE FIELD SECRETARY

During the year following the last General Conference I travelled 17,200 miles, attended nine Yearly Meetings, nine Quarterly Meetings, 38 churches, two institutes, and worked at the desk one

10,700 miles. I visited and did wo
Dakota, Missouri, Nebraska, Illino
New Hampshire, Massachusetts, a
menical Conference ten days in N
Executive Committee meetings and
Board; gave 196 addresses, dedica
debts at each; wrote nearly 1000 le
$241.45.

Last year (this year closing) I
ten Yearly Meetings, two Quarterly
held one institute, attended four F
visited six colleges. Held 24 rallie
and addresses, 140; dedicated sc
helped to secure 300 acres of land h
worth $25 per acre. In short, have
15 State Associations. Raised $5,
mary for the three years: Have
raised, $15,200; visited 28 Yearly
sessions, and given addresses. Hav
of every State Association and ne
some of them have been visited tw
and written 2,000 letters. Have w
have churches, except the State of
States on the lower Mississippi. In

twice, in New Hampshire twice. Attended eight Executive Committee meetings and three Board meetings.

For every single working day since three years ago, when we met at Ocean Park, I have travelled 55 miles every day, written two letters every day, raised $16 every day, and given an address every other day (nearly), and there has been endless private talk (however much that may amount to) about our papers, our colleges, our foreign missions, our home missions, our denomination, our plans; and then every church I visit has its own interests to be talked over and helped along. Every day it is one thing over and over, giving information, giving counsel (such as I could), attempting to help adjust church troubles, giving legal and financial advice, trying to hold up and talk up all our interests, trying to cheer up the whole army, keeping things stirred up, looking up students, looking up ministers, settling pastors, raising church debts, writing letters. The expense per day has been eighty-five cents.

These figures and statistics may seem only like "sounding brass or tinkling cymbals" when read off in a report, but they represent a certain amount of labor, physical and mental. We will not mention any spiritual labor, as I confess there has been too little of that in all probability. It is surely pertinent to ask, What has all this amounted to? Well, that is hard to answer. It is hard to tell what a pastor amounts to sometimes or a helper created and put into the field to be called upon or to be used in case of need. And if that isn't the meaning and status of the field secretary and the construction which you put upon the secretaryship and the nature of his duties and his relation to the whole work, then I, for one, have been mistaken for the last seven years, for that is the kind of work I've tried to do.

Figures are not realistic and fail to show the actual work done. I will take a section of my work as fairly representative, which covers about eight days. The last I spent on the field before coming to this General Conference. These eight days fairly represent almost any eight days. I wanted the closing days to get my reports ready and minutes engrossed, and myself a little freshened for the Con-

ference matters; examined a candid
notifying him he was called to one
tempted to find a field for a third
information regarding an evangeli
next winter. Sent out blanks for sta
ings not reported in Year Book. I
for the Twentieth Century Loan Fun
several months before); wrote letters
wrote Meads about San Francisco.
Meeting. Thermometer, ninety-six d
four inches of dust (no rain in Iowa
miles by freight cars to Oelwein. Tl
$1,600 debt on Oelwein church. Fi
Saturday, wrote on reports; gave a
Meeting Had long talk with Bro.
foreign missionary; worked up the d
eral Conference. Saturday night, w
church debt. Got the Yearly Meetin
the debt. Sunday morning preache
Everybody was happy, for everybo
Was home working on reports by
one thousand miles of railroad tr
degrees every day, and nineteen miles

minister, or anything or anybody else that belongs to us needing help. He is to work when and where he can, as he is able, and as it shall be most practical and fruitful of results. He goes forth not only to represent the interests of General Conference, but the churches are to be encouraged to look upon him as their servant, to be called upon as necessity requires. He is the voice of General Conference and the servant of the whole denomination. He is a missionary on the home field.

It is not correct to consider the field secretary's salary as a part of the cost of raising benevolent funds only as other missionaries are an expense. We never reckon a foreign missionary's salary as a part of the regular expense in raising funds. If the field secretary was in the field for nothing else but raising funds, then his salary might be reckoned as expense. But he is a home missionary and man of all work, and raising money is only a small part. And when you come to reckon expense, he is an expense only in the sense that other missionaries are an expense.

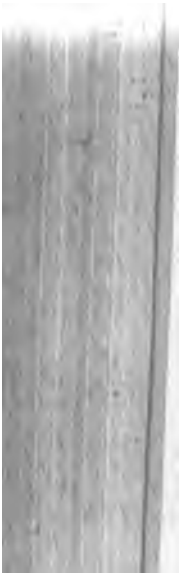
May I refer briefly to several miscellaneous matters?

THE GIFT OF REV. JOSEPH TAYLOR

I desire to mention the gift of Bro. Taylor of Philadelphia of three hundred acres of fruit land at Mill May, N. J. (a deed of which I secured last May), nine miles from Vineland and forty from Philadelphia. It is land of the same character and quality as that around Vineland; is high, gravelly, and well watered, and adapted to fruit raising, and Mr. Taylor says it is worth in the market now $25 per acre and will steadily rise in value. If Father Taylor's estimate is conservative then the gift is worth $7,500. The deed is a deed in fee simple and with no conditions whatever attached to it. It is a gift to the denomination, a memorial of his wife, who died two years ago, and is to be used as the denomination may approve.

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY LOAN FUND

The object of this fund is to help poor societies to build meeting-houses by loaning them money at a low rate of interest out of a fund called the Twentieth Century Loan Fund. The plan origi-



Meeting which holds $2,400
houses, and I have had a pa
in that Yearly Meeting that
Century Loan Fund. I do
dash to raise this fund, but
wills and gifts and moneys fr
ing-houses, etc. I think in t
this fund will considerably i
the fund, since it will be mo
leave the field and the churc
benevolences. Only a week a
German, who disposed of son
check for this Loan Fund. I
time for two years about it an
eyes on several old meeting-
out and that must be sold. I
this Loan Fund if we keep th
insist that the Loan shall be ra

THE NEW LAWS GO

You must have noticed the
propriating money to churches
appropriation is considered son
the appropriation is made on

REVIVALS

Christendom mourns the lack of revivals. There has been nothing like a revival wave since the early days of Moody. There are single instances where churches have been revived and refreshed, but compared with ten years ago it seems difficult to bring about a revival. The unconverted seem too indifferent to even frequent the House of God. To say the least, it is a dry, dearthy time. Some even think it useless to try. I notice that those sections which a few years ago seemed alive with revival power have almost altogether lost it. In the Cairo Mission our colored people tell us that it is difficult as compared with ten years ago to draw a crowd or get converts. The indifference seems to be universal. Doubtless there are many causes. However, we are not discussing causes but stating facts. Quite two-thirds of our churches never added a member on profession last year; or to be exact, according to the *Register*, 1,030 out of 1,407. There were additions to only 377 churches.

Out of	238	in	Maine,	208	made	no	additions:
"	" 33	"	Vermont,	22	"	"	"
"	" 17	"	Massachusetts,	7	"	"	"
"	" 35	"	Rhode Island,	25	"	"	"
"	" 103	"	Michigan,	75	"	"	"
"	" 98	"	New Hampshire,	75	"	"	"
"	" 33	"	Wisconsin,	26	"	"	"
"	" 51	"	Southern Illinois, Y. M.	42	"	"	"
"	" 32	"	Bengal and Orrissa,	26	"	"	"
"	" 22	"	Looney Springs Q. M.,	11	"	"	"
"	" 21	"	Virginia, W. Virginia,	12	"	"	"
"	" 40	"	Iowa,	26	"	"	"

While this rate is fully as high as in other denominations yet these quotations show a spiritual feebleness hardly to be realized. We can hardly claim that we are spiritually alive. But with Bishop Thoburn, and Pres. Harper, and Father Clark and others, we must believe in the speedy coming of a better day. May Free Baptists be ready when the tide comes in.

continue or restrict that work,
ought not to let such a man
hand upon him and use him a
serve us. He is loyal, hope
peculiar aptness for the work
I do not say this so much to cc
gestion to the General Confere
said to the young people. We
We need and will need them sc

NEW

Many new churches have be
ference, one each in Nebraska, I
Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Rhoc
the Cairo Mission, Massachusett
building is certainly not over, an
and rededicated within the last
as I can the condition of the fiel

THE MANNING

For years we have felt the
Cairo Mission, or some kind
the young colored preacher for
as a stimulant to young men
ters. The annual institute

it should be called by the name of their beloved Father
ıg. At the New Hampshire Yearly Meeting at Pittsfield, the
ınd was worked, and $500 was pledged, and the Vermont
Meeting since then has given almost as much more—$300
Yearly Meeting. Whenever I went over the country speak-
the school I found people ready to give, until nearly $2,500
dged, exclusive of the salary donated by one man for its
al. At Conference Board Meeting in Hillsdale two years
was decided to found such a school, to be known as the
ıg Bible School, and a committee consisting of Bros. Gordon,
and myself were named to find a principal, locate the
rent a building, buy what books and apparatus were
, make out a tentative course of study for the first year, etc.,
: that the school was started by the first of April, 1900. It
small task to find the teacher, but we believe that Provi-
ınd some of our brethren led us to the right man, and in
d. Arter we think we have the man whom the Lord had
up and prepared for this work. He accepted. Soon the
rought forward another man who offered to pay the salary,
for the present. Everything seemed to be coming the way
school, but when it came to renting a building we were
. We could not rent for love nor money; defeat awaited
rywhere; and Bro. Ricks had to let the school into his
, where it began April 9, 1900, with ten students. During
ing and summer the young people's secretary, myself, Bro.
and Agent Gordon were negotiating for a little brick house
o, which in August we bought for $2,200, and August 6th the
ge was discharged. We found in Bro. Ricks an ideal agent—
ted, self-sacrificing for the school, honest, a man who can
th the wants of the school with great efficiency, can get
and students. He has secured nearly $500.

THE CAIRO INSTITUTE

was the sixth annual institute, and was held in the city o
last April. The weather was unprecedentedly stormy and
ut we had a good attendance notwithstanding. Prof. Arter's
held forth one evening, and we had orations and essays that

Bible study talks, and one e
improvement—how to mak
flowers and vines, and pain
inside of the home attractiv
least expense, etc. Three hu
nection with this meeting.
the larger ones. The next
planted a tuft of grass in h
going to begin to do what
before.

This institute is an excelle
preachers there to see it and
cuss its interests and needs to
of what such a school means
and for the colored people.
to give a little time to Bro. Ri
thing to say about the Cairo M

HARPER'S

The church at Hagerstow
was only an idea in the mind, i
substantial church in a fine, gr
to our Shenandoah work. It is
It is a substantial and permane

THE SOUTH

While discussing the field we will finish up what we have to say about the South.

I have no plan or policy for, and no solution of, the white churches of the South. Only it seems wretched and unchristian not to try to do more to help our Southern brethren. They are so much like ourselves—sympathetic, appreciative, religious, hospitable, and all so much in need of certain help that we would easily and naturally supply them if in some way we could be brought into closer relationship with them. This whole Southern field is one lying at our very door, is close at hand, easily cultivated, would be fruitful, and results would be quickly realized with ordinary effort. Here are 40,000 white Free Baptists that should be looked after and helped to get on their feet. The churches need organizing, need educating, need contact with some denomination having broader religious ideas.

It ought not to be long before this Board takes up this Southern question for a frank and full discussion. I cannot but feel that Providence is pointing to that field and calling us to assist in its cultivation. I wish to call attention to a school at Midway, Tenn., carried on by Profs. Lucas and Lawrence for theological and academic purposes. Just now they are offered 9,000 acres of fine land and a fine building worth several thousand dollars, all for $25,000.

OUR COAST INTERESTS

A new mission interest has been created at Sacramento, Cal. There is a missionary there with an organization, but our churches at San Francisco and Oakland are without pastors at present. Both are seeking pastors very earnestly, and the case is urgent. The Executive Committee has a committee now looking for a pastor for the San Francisco church. The San Francisco church has made their property over to the General Conference, and it is easily worth $10,000 and the papers are on the way. This was the last report. One of the prominent members of that church writes me that the property is deeded to us with the understanding that we are to interest ourselves and to do something practical and tangible for

and the church might
coast interest should ju
Board.

THE

We must enter upon a
dom of Christ into the W
the denomination more.
held, weak and strugglin
must be occupied. We
must have more. The sc
national paper must have
must be won to God. W
help to do it all. In that
redemption of the West,
Home Mission funds go fo
tive the funds must be gr
active, with 2,500 missiona
67,000 converts last year, a
the West. Religious indif
7000 towns and villages w
and thousands of new tow
must help to occupy these
furnished.

he Quarterly Meetings. We have not a church beyond the th parallel until we reach the Pacific coast, where we have but r churches. Unless the West is saved we cannot hope to per- ıently save the East. The whole country must be saved to per- ıently save a part. The Master has gone and left us the care of vineyard. Can he trust us to do what he wants us to do "until ɔme"?

desire to close by saying that everywhere I have had the hearty port of pastors and churches, and have enjoyed the unfailing rtesy of Yearly Meetings and Quarterly Meetings, and of all brethren, and this has added to the joy of my work, and has in t made up for the loss of being from family and home, and has ed greatly to any success the Lord has given me in the work.

Respectfully submitted,

H. M. FORD, *Field Secretary.*

On motion of Wilson of Massachusetts it was voted t when we adjourn, it be to the church at 7.45 lock this evening.

The report of the treasurer of General Conference, v. A. Given, D. D., for the year ending June 30, 1901, ; submitted, and on motion of Webb of Maine was epted. The report was as follows:

FOREIGN MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

RECEIPTS

h on hand July 1, 1900			$2,024 20
ıtributions for general fund		$7,046 93	
"	Bible school fund	25 00	
"	Bible school interest	19 00	
"	Balasore school fund	108 00	
"	Balasore school interest	84 25	
"	Bible school hall fund	5 00	
"	outfit and passage	12 00	

"	L. E. Gaunce (an	
"	G. H. Hamlen	
"	H. R. Murphy	
"	H. M. Phillips	
"	M. R. Phillips	
"	H. E. Wyman	
"	E. H. Lougher	
"	L. P. Clinton	
"	A. L. Kennan	
	Total contributions	
Bequests for	general fund	
"	permanent fund	
	Total bequests	
Interest on	permanent fund	
"	Bible school fund	
"	Balasore school fund	
"	Henry Newton fund	
	Total interest	
	Aggregate	

DISBURSI

Annuities	
Bible school	

le school fund carried to investments	$25 00		
isore school fund " "	108 00		
nanent fund " "	213 94		
			$346 94
ense account as follows:			
Conference board	$320 00		
Executive committee	50 80		
Safe deposit	10 50		
Printing	53 70		
Postage and stationery	185 03		
Clerical help	353 85		
L. C. Griffin, salary	140 00		
" expenses	36 95		
Salary of treasurer	1,060 00		
Expenses of treasurer	70 12		
			2,280 95
h on hand June 30, 1901			1,156 54
Aggregate			$22,587 04

INVESTED FUNDS

Permanent Fund

e	$100 00	
:ks	375 00	
rtgages and trust deeds	5,281 75	
l estate	2,200 00	
lor Little estate	800 00	
h	1,634 37	
		$10,391 12

Bible School Fund

tes	$1,200 00	
ıd	600 00	
rtgages	3,885 00	
al estate	1,700 00	
ih	2,203 95	
		$9,588 95

Cash . . . .

Henry N

Mortgage . . .

Total invested funds

HOME MISSIO

REC

Cash on hand July 1, 1900

Contributions for general fund

" Boston church

" Central Assoc

" Harper's Ferry

" Phillips Memo

" Union Grove,

" Valley Springs,

" Manning Bible

" 20th Cen. Ch.

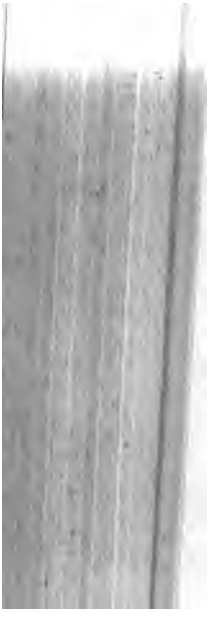
Total contributions

Bequests for general fund

" permanent fund

DISBURSEMENTS

nuities	$195 00	
ston, Mass.	385 00	
ckton, Mass.	450 00	
nbridge, Mass.	100 00	
ıtral Association	12 82	
ıira Heights, N. Y.	100 00	
gerstown, Md.	50 00	
rdwick, Vt.	125 00	
rper's Ferry	853 24	
rton, Kan.	175 00	
ıcoln, Neb.	283 33	
ısing, Mich.	100 00	
and, N. Y.	15 04	
ı Francisco	100 00	
ux Falls, S. D.	140 00	
nerville, Mass.	100 00	
ion Grove, O.	4 25	
ley Springs, S. D.	104 00	
rcester, Mass.	150 00	
stern Pub. Society	12 00	
nning Bible School	1,696 02	
		$5,150 70
manent fund carried to investment acct.		563 94
urch Bldg. fund carried to loan acct.		6,034 26
pense account as follows:		
Conference board	$136 11	
Executive committee	12 67	
Safe deposit	4 50	
Printing	23 88	
Postage and stationery	84 32	
Clerical help	146 15	
L. C. Griffin, salary	60 00	
" expenses	15 77	
Salary of field secretary	1,462 50	
Expenses of field secretary	319 68	



Stocks
Mortgages
Taylor Little estate
Savings bank
Green Mountain Seminary
Cash

Her

Mortgage
Bond

Total invested f

TWENTIETH CENTU

UN

Loaned to Parr, Ind.
Loaned to Sacramento, Cal

THIRTY-FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

RECEIPTS

on hand July 1, 1900 . .			$533 61
butions for N. E. students . .	$1,251 75		
" Hillsdale College students	204 86		
" Keuka College students	101 40		
" Parker College students	73 67		
Total contributions .			1,631 68
sts for general fund . .	$103 40		
" permanent fund . .	106 97		
Total bequests . .			210 37
st on permanent fund . .	$30 00		
' E. True fund . . .	35 00		
' library fund . . .	69 00		
' Henry Newton fund . .	16 50		
Total interest . .			150 50
Aggregate . . .			$2,526 16

DISBURSEMENTS

College for N. E. students . .	$718 89	
" interest from library fund .	59 50	
lale College for students . .	236 07	
" interest from library fund	17 25	
a College for students . .	141 24	
:r College for students . .	111 44	
r College for students . .	40 00	
on Institute (interest on note) .	300 00	
		$1,624 39
anent fund carried to investment acct.		640 88
on hand June 30, 1901 . . .		260 89
Aggregate		$2,526 16

E. Tru

Stock . . .
Cash . . .

Librar

Note . . . .
Mortgages . . .
Cash . . . .

Henry Nea

Mortgage . . .

Total invested funds
LIABILITY.—Note held by

ONE CENT TA

RECE

Cash collected from Y. M's and A

DISBURS

Cash overdrawn July 1, 1900

MINISTERIAL RELIEF FUND

DEBIT

nd July 1, 1900 . .		$30 41

CREDIT

l Jackson . . .	12 50	
rtlett	75 00	
		$87 50
ce ($200.00 permanent fund)		231 54
		$319 04

ARTHUR GIVEN, *Treasurer.*

d August 20, 1901.

DANIEL D. WATERMAN,
EDWARD P. METCALF,
For Finance Committee.

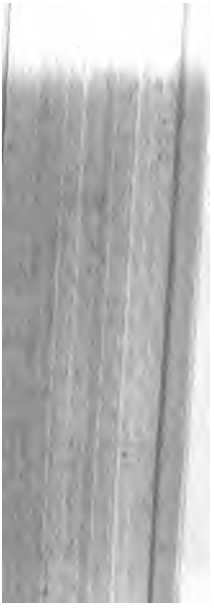
e of Conference the following financial state- the Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society serted:

A CONDENSED REPORT

A. DeMeritte, Treasurer, in account with the Free Woman's Missionary Society, for the year ending 901:

RECEIPTS

nd Aug. 31, 1900 . .		$1,824 35
on fund	$100 00	
e of Mrs. Mary A. Fiske .	200 00	
ter scholarship . . .	51 65	
n Memorial . . .	50 00	
me of Cristy fund . .	1,556 34	
general funds . .	233 68	



Rev. E. Moody's s
incidental fund .
History of F. B. W
general funds .

INV
Loans and bonds paid

Total rece

Cash for salaries in Indi
$400 per yea
kindergarten te
sistant in Orp
appropriations t
Widows' Hom
India .
appropriations t
lege, including
by Cristy fund
Western work
salaries of treasur
freight

Helper deficit and advertisement in *Helper*	$284 07	
general expenses, including postage, care of funds, etc.	136 68	
History of F. B. W. M. S.	60	
investment of Golden Memorial fund,	81 15	
investment of Moulton fund	100 00	
temporary loans with collateral	1,403 00	
		$11,321 47

INVESTED FUND ACCOUNT

vested loans and bonds	$4,671 00
and Aug. 31, 1901	2,146 38
Accounted for	$18,138 85

After payment of all liabilities to Aug. 31, there is in the ury, including a temporary loan, $2,028.58.

LAURA A. DEMERITTE, *Treasurer.*

I have examined the foregoing accounts and find them cor- r cast and well vouched.

[Signed] HARRIET A. DEERING, *Auditor.*

STATEMENT OF INVESTED FUNDS

Funds		*Investments*	
ster scholarship,	$1,000 00	Municipal bonds	$9,800 00
s fund	1,000 00	R. R. bonds	8,500 00
y fund	29,752 00	Corporation bonds,	3,545 00
fund	500 00	Mortgage and collateral	10,075 00
born fund	425 00	Savings banks	1,626 95
r A. Dearborn fund,	400 00	Trust Co.'s	1,123 15
en Memorial	321 15	Boston & Albany stock,	2,500 00
derson fund	1,000 00	Old Colony stock	2,200 00
son fund	500 00	Union Pacific stock,	471 00
lergarten funds,	325 03		
efield funds	300 00		
cott fund	2,000 00		

$39,841 10

I

LAURA A.

I have examined the foregoing
in amount and kind as stated by th
[Signed] HARRI

On motion of Metcalf of
committee on transportation
chair, consisting of Fulton of
and Metcalf of Rhode Island.

On motion of Graif of M
adjourn.

Prayer was offered by Rev.
after which adjournment was

WEDNESDAY

At 7.45 o'clock Wednesday

At this time the president announced the standing committees, as recorded on pages 7 and 8.

On motion of Webb of Maine, it was voted that when we adjourn it be to nine o'clock Friday morning at the chapel.

Metcalf of Rhode Island moved to adjourn.

Prayer was offered by Rev. G. H. Ball, D. D., of New York.

Adjourned.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 5

Thursday, Sept. 5, was devoted to the exercises of the annual convention of the United Society of Free Baptist Young People.

In addition to receiving reports from officers and committees, electing officers and transacting other business, the convention listened to the following addresses during the day:

"How Can We Fire Our Young People with a Purpose to Accomplish Evangelistic Work?" by Rev. C. E. McColley of Iowa.

"The Work among the Mountain Whites," by Prof. J. W. Lucas of Tennessee.

"How to Interest Children in Successful Missionary Work," by Mrs. F. S. Mosher of Michigan.

"The Work of Storer Graduates," by Prof. R. P. Sims of West Virginia.

"Efficiency in Christian Service," by Rev. J. B. Coy of New York.

"Making Christ's Fellowship Effective," by Rev. Philip Graif, D. D., of Michigan.

Maine.

Roll was called and a q
present.

The minutes of the previc
approved.

On motion an official rep
Conference was appointed
Kennan of Minneapolis, Min

On motion of Harringtos
chair appointed as special c
reading letters from Yearly
Freeman of Massachusetts, W
New York.

On motion of Mrs. Durgi
appointed as committee on p
Sunday, Brackett of West Vir
Wainwright of West Virginia.

The committee on requests
first relating to the Union F
Tennessee.

Shenandoah and Piedmont Association of Virginia was admitted to membership in the General Conference of Free Baptists.

Hereupon the committee on credentials presented an additional report, recommending that Prof. J. W. Lucas of Midway, Tenn., delegate from the Union Free Baptist Association of Tennessee, and Rev. J. W. Jenkins of Berryville, Va., delegate from the Shenandoah and Piedmont Association of Virginia, be admitted to this Conference.

On motion of Webb of Maine, the report was adopted, and the brethren named were given seats in Conference, after a brief but hearty address of welcome by the president.

On motion of Hopkins of Michigan, the report of Conference Board was referred to the committee on denomination.

The report of the corresponding secretary, Rev. A. Given, D. D., of Rhode Island, was presented; and on motion of Chase of Maine was accepted. The report was as follows:

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT

Foreign Missions.—It would be impossible to report in detail the multifarious duties, anxieties, and joys of a single year. It would be too wearisome to listen to more than a few surface events of our work. Very soon after the last annual meeting of the Conference Board, Rev. H. R. Murphy and wife, with their son Roland, sailed for India from Boston. They are stationed at Midnapore, where they are enjoying the beauties of the Bengali language, and probably giving sage advice to older missionaries, besides

brightly upon the snow-covered
that stood around the open grav
well-rounded, useful life. It was a
the paradise where he already w
our India mission, extending over a
was heroic, conscientious, and faitl
arship were a marvel to those wh
information upon current and sci
so busy a man could have attained
mation, he replied by saying, "T
papers, I have used for other p
papers." He has fought a good
won his crown. May his mantle
vice shall be as long and as notably

Another of our foreign missio
during the year. She never went
the faithful missionary's crown. M
R. I., when young, had a great
India. She was hindered by the
her a certificate of good health.
cepted the situation, but obtaine
give what she might earn for for
to her death she thought and plann

months of great suffering she passed away on Oct. 4, 1900. Surely what this woman has done should be told as a memorial of her so long as Free Baptist history shall be read.

Please read the last India report for interesting items pertaining to the work. Read there of the needs that a little money would relieve. Let me refer to a few. The book room in Balasore needs furnishings and books. It should be made the centre of good Christian literature for the thousands of that city. There is a pressing need of a house for the principal of the high school. A bright young man is needed for Y. M. C. A. work in Balasore. A kindergarten teacher to start pupils toward the high school is called for. The Bible School Hall needs for its completion $1,000. A dormitory costing $300 is needed for the Bible School students. Read what Dr. Helen Phillips says about rugs, and let us see what can be done about it. We need at once a man who will go to succeed Mr. Hamlen in the high school. For encouragement read of the church missionary supported by the Balasore church; the increase in self-support of native work; the Sunday school at Balasore of over 200; that kindergarten supplies can now be secured in Calcutta. Then read Bro. Hamlen's statement that "God never creates a need without having an abundant supply." It is our business to bring the supply and the need together.

Home Missions.—The unpaid home mission appropriations at the beginning of the year amounted to $1,070. There has been paid on appropriations $3,215. Unpaid at the present time, $725. Receipts for the Manning Bible School $1,343. Paid on the school account $1,696. At the time of this report that account is overdrawn $291. The Twentieth Century Church Building Fund was increased during the financial year from $611 to $6,034. At the present time the total amount of the fund is $8,969. Loans have been made on first mortgage security, bearing interest at three per cent, to the amount of $5,600. There is now in the treasury $3,000 to be loaned. This fund is now well started. Its growth is assured. The rapidity of its growth depends upon the generosity of those who are looking for the best way to help our home mission interests and to strengthen all our work.

able to do by way of assisting t
Our various schools are briefly r

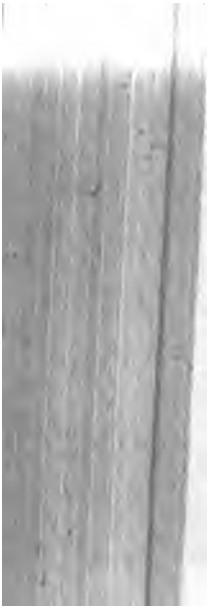
Bates College, Lewiston, Me.-
idly increased until there are nc
and 28 in the Divinity School
bers 20. An urgent need has
faculty of a woman. The fun
amount to $366,000. The inst
tions to its resources in order
current expenses and to provid
of study. It has been impossib
of the various departments with
dowment and from term bills; s
raised by special effort. The
within a few weeks at a cost of
$20,000 has been contributed b
Mass. The new building is al
remove one of the greatest emb
tution has long suffered. For
umes of the college library hav
stored away in belfry and basem
of an addition of at least $10(
next urgent demand is for a suit
is to be hoped that these need

ı weekly prayer-meeting. There are conversions every year. than 200 of our college students come to us from other ıinations, many of them from non-Christian homes. We ally value the Free Baptist element among our students, ıe it contains a large percentage of our working Christians. :rease in this element means a corresponding increase in the ır of students that our college and theological school con- : to the ministry. Free Baptist families should provide more ır the Free Baptist ministry. The responsibility for keeping nks of our ministry full rests mainly upon Free Baptist homes ıurches. Greater financial aid should be given to our young ıtting for the ministry. The average salary of a Free Baptist er is too small to warrant contracting debts for an educa- ret we must have educated ministers or cease to exist as a de- ıation. We must care for our own or lose them. Our Eastern e and theological school are now equipped as never before ıe work of Christian education; that they may yield their full ge of consecrated ambassadors for Christ, they must have the rs, the sympathy, and the support of our own people.

'lsdale College, Hillsdale, Mich.—Number of students the ear, in all departments, 341. In the theological department, seven. During the last three years the attendance in the e course has been about the same, but in the preparatory de- ent there has been a falling-off.

: endowment fund now amounts to $237,532.03, and the of buildings and equipment is $116,972.14. Total, $354,- 7. Several members of the faculty have resigned, and a ıstment of work in the several departments has been made. C. H. Gurney has been elected dean of the college, and will act esident until Dr. Mosher's successor is elected. John M. : has been elected professor of the sciences, and Prof. Frank ɔunds of vocal music. A woman's dean is to be elected, principal of the preparatory department.

uka College, Keuka Park, N. Y.—The college year has been edly the best in our history. The receipts from endowment $5,579.25; from tuition, room-rent, and specials for in-



pects for growth an
in good condition wit
In round numbers t
there is practically n
Ball brothers to the
manifests his genero
impulse to found the
in various ways, indi
his blessing is crown
growth of this institut
on the work, in all lin
will bring out of sma
results. In 1850 it wa
in the city of Buffalo,
of great obstacles and
church, with a good
with this result a good
of Springville, was also
have come into Keuka
ing the years of servic
the Buffalo church and

Parker College, Winn
cessful service, President

Rio Grande College, Rio Grande, Ohio.—The patronage during the last three years has been equal to the best average in the history of the college. The average number of students is one hundred and fifty. The endowment amounts to $71,000. The library has been increased the last three years by 1,800 volumes. Other equipments have been added. Three students are preparing for the ministry. The outlook is encouraging.

Storer College, Harper's Ferry, West Virginia.—There have been enrolled the past year forty-nine young men and seventy-three young women. Various internal improvements have been made in the halls, such as new floors, with the supplying of matting, and some furniture. A laboratory for physics and chemistry has been fitted up in the DeWolf Industrial Building. The alumni have called this "Storer College Year," and have materially assisted in the erection of a building which will be more convenient for carpentry work. There are two or three who have the ministry in view.

Maine Central Institute, Pittsfield, Maine.—Value of property, $25,000; endowment, $10,000. The number of students the last year was one hundred and eight. All of the courses have been strengthened and the standard raised. Bible classes for young men and young women were held, also a mission class for the spring term. There were twenty-seven graduates this year. The outlook is better than for several years. A new normal course is to be added this year. Larger endowment, better library, new gymnasium, and dormitory are needed. Measures are in progress to secure these. Two are fitting for the ministry.

New Hampton Literary Institution, New Hampton, N. H.—There were 173 students last year. The coming year there will be twelve teachers. Twenty-five young men and eleven young women made a public profession of faith in Christ during the last year. Four or five young men are known to be studying for the ministry. The recent effort to increase the endowment has resulted in cash to about $10,000, making the fund now $23,000. Besides there are $30,000 in pledges which are payable year by year for the next three to five years. Efforts are to be continued

1,200 volumes. The stu
There were fourteen grad
are seven teachers, all Chr

Pike Seminary, Pike, A
seven the last three years
the ministry. In the con
versity this school stood
two hundred dollars has
that sum for repairs and in

Manning Bible School,
April 9, 1900, with Rev.
There are theological, n
There are good library an
the school is to furnish a
colored minister, so that he
telligently; to impress him
sacred character of the min
the cause of Christ; to fi
those who may wish to be
day-school teachers, and th
as public school teachers.
dents are required to do m
is twenty-eight. The prospe

Bible School, Midnapore

ses of study cover three years and include the Sanscrit udy and interpretation of the several books of the Bible, raphy, church history, fulfilled prophecy, lectures on and pastoral theology. A good book on theology, in needed.

: two good houses, accommodating four married stu- : other students are living in temporary quarters that are ent or healthful. These quarters are, moreover, costly, ount of white ants must have extensive repairs every e hundred dollars would remove this difficulty. About eeded to complete the Bible School Hall.

High School, Balasore, India.—This school has now ished seven years. During that time it has had about ed different pupils. About one-third of these pupils from our Christian community. These are more steady ice than the Hindus, and comparatively few have left e-admitted.

are taken in the primary grade, and if capable and cept on through all the grades up to the entrance ex- of the Calcutta University. But comparatively few far. Only twenty-seven have thus far been sent to ation, of whom fifteen have passed, ten of these being

hing staff consists of eleven teachers besides the prin- t of these men are Christians. They are all fairly faith- erested in their work. Most of the boys in our Balasore ommunity receive a part or all of their education in

We have had six from Bhimpore, two from Midna- ne from Santipore. Except in Midnapore, this repre- he Christian boys in our mission who are far enough o take the high school course. Several of our people re prefer to keep their boys at home and send them to nent school there.

vithout exception the Hindu boys in our school are ome to us because our fees are less than they must pay All are treated alike, and a stranger would often be

cused from this. Usually on Sat
ligious subject is given either to
classes.

The influence of the school for
tian community, and likewise in
those Hindu boys who remain lo
have lost all faith in their old re
class who sympathize with Chris
prayers.

Ministerial Relief Fund.—It
has been given for this fund duri
on hand will soon be exhausted
our aged ministers may be, he
treasury if no contributions are
our churches take one collection
gest that the Conference Board
ask for such an offering.

Administrative.—Your secreta
ference Board, at its annual meeti
the denominational interests, the
ing the year, be held largely resp
directing the secretaries in th
ordered in a general way by the
for new missionaries as they arise

to co-operate, as fully as possible, with the various state and yearly meeting boards, in the prosecution of our work. There has been no hostility, but our machinery needs this connecting link between our organization and the local churches. It is impossible for us to reach or be familiar with all localities. We must depend more upon these boards for advice, and often, to save expense, they should be employed to execute matters of business within their territory. This does not suggest that we shall not utilize the services of members of our own board when they are economically available.

May it be our highest ambition to be co-workers together with God for the regeneration of the world.

Respectfully submitted,

ARTHUR GIVEN.

The report of the finance committee was now submitted by Metcalf of Rhode Island; and, on motion of Mosher of Michigan, the report was adopted. The report was as follows:

The finance committee have had several meetings during the past year, and have frequently conferred with the treasurer. They have inspected the securities in possession of General Conference, and have made changes in the values at which some of the items are carried.

They have advised the following investments:

$2,000 International Silver Co. 6 per cent Bonds.
$2,000 Denver and Southwestern R. R. 5 per cent Bonds.
$1,000 Brooklyn Union Elevated R. R. 4.5 per cent Bonds.
$2,200 Mortgage Wm. C. Anderson.
$1,400 Mortgage on West Derby, Vt., parsonage.
$3,500 House and Lot, Ford St., Providence.
$3,000 Green Mountain Seminary.

As the auditor of General Con
mittee audited the treasurer's acc

H
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D

On motion of Harringto
matter of the Free Baptist
was referred to the committe

The matter on the cl
National Anti-Saloon Leagu
mittee on temperance.

Hopkins of Michigan pre
to membership of our church
on church polity.

Wesley of Rhode Island
location of the next session o
the limits of the Rhode Islan
the committee on requests.

Hopkins of Michigan pre
to the ordinance of the Lo

Resolved, That the president and treasurer of the General Conference of Free Baptists be, and they hereby are, authorized and instructed to duly execute in the name of said General Conference a quit claim deed, to the board of trustees of the First Free Baptist church of the city of San Francisco, a corporation existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of California, of that certain lot or parcel of land situated in said San Francisco, on which the church building of said First Free Baptist church now stands, as set forth and described in the deed of the same from said board of trustees of said church to said General Conference, said quit claim deed to contain certain covenants, reservations, and stipulations by which the said property shall be assured to be used continuously for church purposes by a religions body duly connected with the said General Conference of Free Baptists, and that upon violation of said covenants, reservations, and stipulations, said property shall revert to said General Conference of Free Baptists.

Gordon of Illinois presented a request from the church at Marion, Ill., which was referred to the committee on finance.

Anthony of Maine presented a resolution relating to corresponding messengers, which was referred to the committee on correspondence.

The report of the publisher of *The Morning Star* and treasurer of the Morning Star Publishing House, Mr. A. L. Freeman of Boston, Mass., was presented, and on motion of Wilson of Massachusetts was accepted and placed on file. The report was as follows:

In accordance with the action of the 20th General Conference the following financial report of the Morning Star Publishing House is respectfully submitted for information:

Total . .	

EXPENDI

July 1, 1898, to July 1, 1899	
July 1, 1899, to July 1, 1900	
July 1, 1900, to July 1, 1901	
Cash on hand July 1, 1901 .	
Total . .	

Inventory taken June 30, 1901, follows:

ASSE

Real estate . . .	
Engine and press room .	
Mailing room . .	
Stereotype room . .	
Composing room . .	
Furnishings . . .	
Investments . . .	
Proceeds of investments .	
Paper, stock, etc. . .	

LIABILITIES.

Quarterlies, advance	572 80	
Myrtle	292 41	
Myrtle Buds	133 73	
Symbols	22 48	
Sundry bills unpaid	60 00	
Purchase ledger	1,548 87	
Notes payable	13,585 48	
Suspense account	85	
Due contributors	47 00	
Star gift fund	6 67	
Salaries	175 00	
Annuity fund, interest-bearing	10,000 00	
Annuity fund, non-interest bearing	7,260 00	
Total		33,705 29
Assets above liabilities		$54,422 34
The real assets of the establishment are comprised in the above amount		$54,422 34
And the annuity fund		17,260 00
		$71,682 34

Supplementary statement showing amount of business and cost for three years ending June 30, 1901.

		Cost.
Morning Star subscriptions	$22,816 76	$32,192 86
Advertisements	9,261 57	
Lesson Quarterlies and *Leaves*	24,219 30	13,172 05
Myrtle	6,457 49	5,106 78
Myrtle Buds	2,149 96	1,789 51
Books	4,983 74	4,359 10
Job printing	10,221 35	7,928 72
Symbols	2,356 90	1,663 82
Total	$82,467 07	$66,212 84
General expense account		14,133 91
		$80,346 75

mention the book now in press, '
This work has been prepared b
book will be ready in October.
there is but a limited edition it
Your attention is called to two ot
Star Press —" Conditions of Spi
Stacy, and a book of ten lectur
the Ministers' Institute of Maine
title of " New Wine Skins," and
may be had at this session for
supply of our literature may be f
church.

Rev. O. D. Patch of New board of corporators of th House, presented a stateme the Publishing House to Ge

In presenting to this Conferenc
ing House would have it under
accord with a rule established by
therefore thrusting upon you a m

In 1832 our General Conference purchased from the firm of Hobbs, Woodman, & Co. of Limerick, Me., the *Morning Star*, and has never, from that day to this, in any way relinquished the ownership of the same. Until 1868 this ownership was everywhere recognized, the corporators of the Printing Establishment were chosen by the General Conference, and its surplus earnings were distributed according to its directions. But at that time — 1868 — a change occurred, not in the ownership of the Establishment, however, but merely in its management — a change which there is cause to believe has come to be widely misapprehended by our people. This change was made by the General Conference in session at Buffalo, N. Y., in 1868, for prudential reasons, and in the interest of what was supposed to be a wise and judicious conservatism. The General Conference at that time, having voted under the pressure of Western sentiment that $12,000 be set apart from the funds of the Printing Establishment, and upon certain conditions paid over to the managers of the *Christian Freeman*, published in Chicago; also that $10,000 upon specified conditions be appropriated toward the establishing of a Central denominational paper — though never actually paid, then passed the following vote, namely: "That the capital remaining in the hands of the F. W. B. Printing Establishment, after paying the sums specified, shall, by proper legal enactments and change of the constitution of this Conference, be placed absolutely under the control of the corporators of said Establishment, and not be subject to the interference of General Conference, to be used for the publication of such books and periodicals as said corporators may deem advisable, provided that said corporators shall always be members in good and regular standing in the Freewill Baptist denomination; that a full and complete report of the financial condition of the Establishment shall be made to each session of this General Conference, for information only; and that all profits which may accrue from the publication of books, the *Morning Star*, or any other periodicals, shall be sacredly appropriated to benevolent purposes connected with the Freewill Baptist denomination."

ment is eminently a Freewill Ba
corporators fail to act in accor
(previously specified) it would be
Conference to inquire into the su
of their work to other hands."
ence expressly declared, "The Fr
ment is the property of the denom

In view of these consideration
ever the purpose of the General C
with our Publishing House, mal
corporation. Neither have the
dreamed of such independence,
accountable to this Conference for
trustees of this Conference, mana
the funds of the Publishing Hous
ments. If at any time this mana
clearly within the province of th
mittee or otherwise, to investigate
to be made such changes even in
or in its official acts, as may be de
the denomination. Furthermore,
gives too much authority to the bo
render less vital than formerly the
Publishing House and the denom

these publications could succeed without the generous and wide-spread co-operation of our brethren throughout the denomination, and especially of our pastors. If this has been true in the past, much more conspicuously true is it a fact at the present time. That the wonderful increase of religious literature of a general nature, the prevalence of the daily paper rendering practically valueless the religious weekly as a newspaper, and the constantly increasing space given to religious news in the secular press render this a critical epoch for denominational papers generally, is a fact known to all. Of course the strain upon papers of small constituencies is most oppressive, and not a few of that class have been forced to the wall already.

If our two papers, the Eastern and the Western, operating separately, or even the two combined in one — a consummation for which many are devoutly praying — shall continue to live and prosper, it certainly will be because our people generally, ministry and laity together, rally heartily to their support. Let no one fondly dream that even the *Morning Star*, hitherto so radiant, so prosperous, so effective, will continue uninterruptedly to shine, pouring its radiance into the homes and along the pathways of its constituents, except those constituents shall cease to fold their arms in indifference and rally unitedly to its support as in the days of the fathers. Remember, therefore, that the Publishing House is yours, and that jointly with its board of corporators you must share either in the glory of its success or in the shame of its failure.

In behalf of the board of corporators,

O. D. PATCH.

Miner of Wisconsin moved that the communication from the board of corporators of the Morning Star Publishing House, through the president, be received and placed on file and published in the Minutes of General Conference, and also be referred to the committee on publications.

when we adjourn, it be
at this place.

An application for men
from the Cave Spring A
ferred to the committee c

On motion of Anthony
Father Taylor, mentione
Board, was referred to th

On motion of Anthony
on proposed amendmen
pointed by the chair
Dickinson of Iowa, Br
Cheney of Rhode Island,
Osgood of Massachuse

Prayer was offered by

Adjourned.

FRIDA

In chapel at two o'clo
assembled agreeable to a
the chair.

Space of New York presented a request for the next session of General Conference to be held within the limits of the Central Association. This was referred to the committee on requests.

Sherritt of Ohio presented a request for the location of the next session of General Conference in Ohio. This was referred to the committee on requests.

The report of the editor and publisher of the *Free Baptist* was presented, and on motion of Rich of Rhode Island was accepted and ordered on file. The report was as follows:

REPORT OF THE PUBLISHER OF THE "FREE BAPTIST"

The *Free Baptist*, since the last session of General Conference, has undergone a change of form, from a twenty-page, three-column to a sixteen-page, four-column paper. The change was for the sake of increased space with a decreased expense, and makes the paper, at the present time, practically equivalent to the *Morning Star* in size.

In common with all other religious papers, the *Free Baptist* has faced increased expenses in the cost of materials and workmanship, as well as decrease of income from advertising.

The following is a general statement of receipts and expenditures:

RECEIPTS

Cash on hand June 1, 1898	$329 65	
From subscriptions June 1, '98, to June 1, '01	7,249 51	
From advertising	1,767 66	
From gifts, etc.	154 72	
Total		$9,501 54

EXPENDITURES

From June 1, '98, to June 1, '01	$9,519 44
June 1, 1901, cash overdrawn	$17 90

Liabilities . . . .

Total assets .

It is found by comparison
receipts for each of the las
previous six or seven years, ha
less from advertising, while th

The endowment fund spoke
of the paper in Wisconsin, re
the donor that this gift shoul
likewise, until a sufficient am
permanence of the paper. T
session, laid plans to increase t
ing pledges, gifts, and bequests

This plan is now in operati
received, and we are ready t
pledges are conditional on the
in cash and pledges.

The circulation of the *Free*
and the list of subscriptions is
The net increase of paid subsc
100 per year, while the total of
1001 and the

committee on the New West presented a report was considered item by item. Item No. 3, relat- church letters taken from the East to the West, ferred to the committee on church polity. Item relating to agents in the West, was referred to ence Board in the form of a substitute item. As mended the report then adopted, on motion of of Michigan, was as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE NEW WEST

eas the western part of our country is fast becoming a n politics, a storehouse of financial wealth, and a place of opulation; and whereas the people in many places, and creasingly numerous, are without any religious instruction r, and in many other places are predominantly Free Baptist , while other denominations are occupying fields which belong to us; and whereas the efforts put forth by our ization hitherto to meet this need and opportunity have perlatively inadequate to meet the demands; be it

ved (1) That resolutions for the clerk's book, in regard to West, should be superseded by resolutions for the hearts s and pockets of our people.

That it should be impressed upon our people that the best the investment of men and money in the West is now. is at its flood. One dollar now is worth ten dollars twenty om now.

R. R. KENNAN,
J. J. TATUM,
FRED COMBER,
C. C. WAINWRIGHT,
C. H. SEARLES,
} *Committee.*

n the desk a communication from the General ation of General Baptists was read and referred to nmittee on correspondence. The communication follows:

General Bapti

We are hoping that
tendance upon your sess
wife of Oakland City, I
honored representatives,
regarding us and our wo
General Baptists are m
work in hand, but are try
The publication interes
Interest in missions is
definite amount is being
churches for foreign missi
Most of the churches will
sent to your mission treas
Oakland City College is
fine new building has been
Our Sunday schools, ger
Our statistics at last ses
35 local associations with a
Our next session will be
second Sunday in October.
would receive a welcome a
May your session be ch
daring work for the advanc

Free Baptist church, Harper's Ferry: morning, Rev. R. R. Kennan of Minnesota. Night, Rev. Dr. Philip Graif of Michigan. Y. P. S. Devotional Service, Harry S. Myers of Michigan, leader.

Methodist Protestant: morning, Rev. E. G. W. Wesley of Rhode Island. Night, Rev. Dr. G. H. Ball of New York.

Methodist Episcopal: morning, Prof. A. W. Anthony of Maine.

Bakertown: Rev. T. J. Winslade of New Hampshire.

Colored Methodist Episcopal: morning, Rev. N. Ricks of Illinois. Night, Rev. T. H. Stacy of Maine.

Johnsontown, Free Baptist: Rev. T. A. Stevens of New York.

Pleasant Valley, Free Baptist: Rev. A. M. Patterson of Washington, D. C., and Rev. M. W. Turner of Kentucky.

Charlestown, Free Baptist: Rev. W. J. Fulton of Ohio, and Rev. C. E. McColley of Iowa.

N. C. BRACKETT,
W. R. WOOD,
C. C. WAINWRIGHT,
} *Committee.*

Webb of Maine moved that a special committee on election of Conference Board be appointed by the chair. It was voted, and the following committee was appointed: Webb of Maine, Wolfe of Nebraska, Mrs. Hulce of Michigan.

The committee on amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws presented a report, which, on motion of Graif of Michigan, was considered item by item.

By vote of Conference, the proposed amendments to the Constitution numbers 1, 2, and 5 were lost; numbers 3 and 4 were adopted. The adopted sections are as follows:

3. Amend Article 6 of the Constitution in the second line after the word "treasurer" by inserting the words, "a corresponding secretary."

the By-Laws were adopt

1. Amend Article 4 of th
by inserting after the words
line, the words, "and on Min
shall report at the next trienn
after its appointment."

2. Amend Article 4 of the
after the words "Conference
the words, "said committee
General Conference."

3. Amend Article 13 of the
so that it shall read as follows
or amended at any meeting r
of those present, provided notic
ment be inserted in the call fo
of the Conference previously he

At four o'clock came
"What Free Baptists Star
W. Jefferson of Rhode Is
Hart of New York, Steele
Hampshire, Ricks of Illinc

)n motion of Metcalf of Rhode Island, Jefferson of ıde Island was requested to have his address on hat Free Baptists Stand For " published.

)n motion of Anthony of Maine, voted to ask the ımittee on church polity to define a non-resident rch-member.

)n motion of Miner of Wisconsin, voted to adjourn.

'rayer was offered by Miner of Wisconsin.

.djourned.

FRIDAY EVENING

:onference assembled at the church at 7.30 Friday ıing, pursuant to adjournment. Vice-President .se was in the chair.

'rayer was offered by Stevens of New York.

'idings having been received of an attempted assassi- on of President McKinley at the Pan-American ıosition at Buffalo, and as it was supposed that the mpt had proved effective, Miner of Wisconsin offered following resolution :

:solved, That Hon. G. F. Mosher be appointed a committee to ulate a suitable message of condolence on the death of our ed President McKinley, the same to be transmitted to Mrs. .inley through the Secretary of State. Also that a committee ıppointed to have in charge all arrangements for memorial ces.

'he chair appointed as the committee hereby ordered, er of Wisconsin, Lucas of Tennessee, Space of New k, McDonald of West Virginia, Jordan (B. C.) of ne.

Oppressed with the weight of the awful tidings from Buffalo, and supposing our nation's President to be already dead, the members of Conference voted to postpone to the following evening the exercises of the program for this evening, and to hold an informal memorial service, expressive, in part at least, of the sorrow and sense of bereavement felt by every heart. Addresses were made by President Ball of Keuka College, Professor Gurney of Hillsdale College, Principal McDonald of Storer College, Rev. C. C. Wainwright of West Virginia, Rev. W. J. Fulton of Ohio, Professor Anthony of Cobb Divinity School, Hon. G. F. Mosher of Michigan, and President Chase of Bates College.

On motion of Webb of Maine, it was voted that when we adjourn it be to 9 o'clock to-morrow morning in the chapel.

Prayer was now offered by Professor Hamilton Hatter of West Virginia.

Adjourned.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 7

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., Sept. 7, 1901.

Met agreeably to adjournment at 9 o'clock Saturday morning, Sept. 7, 1901, President Lord in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Hull of Wisconsin.

The roll was called and a quorum was ascertained to be present. The records of yesterday's sessions were read and approved.

On motion of Webb of Maine, a resolution on Sabbath desecration and intemperance was referred to the committee on temperance.

On motion of Space of New York, a resolution relating to district superintendents was referred to the committee on church polity.

The committee on the country presented a report, which was received and considered item by item. On motion of Graif of Michigan, the report was finally adopted as a whole as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE COUNTRY

Resolved, (1) That we rejoice that the country is internally prosperous, and that its foreign relations are peaceful.

Whereas the Government is keeping its pledges with reference to the people inhabiting the territory acquired from Spain, therefore

Resolved, (2) That we rejoice that civil government has been set up in Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippines; that religious freedom is secured to the inhabitants of those islands; that free schools are being established there; that commerce and sanitary systems are being developed; and that the conditions of liberty and Western civilization are offered to all their inhabitants.

Whereas the mob spirit and race hatred are alarmingly prevalent in sections of the country, therefore

Resolved, (3) That we claim for all classes of citizens in the Republic equal privileges in the public schools, no limitation of the suffrage on account of color, and that every person accused of crime should be accorded a fair trial in a court of justice, and lawful punishment if found guilty, even if Congress and the Federal Government must interfere in behalf of the accused. Mobs and lynchings have no rightful place in civilized society.

Resolved, (4) That we recognize, nevertheless, in such institutions as Storer College a powerful means of improving the relations of races in the South. Enlightenment, culture, industry, and civility

(5) That in the inter
urge the enactment of State law
arbitration may be not only possible
or lockouts are either imminent or

Whereas a murderous attempt ha
life of the honored President of the

Resolved, (6) That while we utte
social theories that make assassina
policy, we also believe that the chie
steady inculcation of these principle
of respect for authority in the publ
the people that liberty is not licens
tends to violence, and that freedom
tection of just and righteous govern
the love of man is the safety of gov
uals.

Whereas one at least of the lead
country has agreed to admit colored
terms with its white membership, the

Resolved, (7) That we heartily a
view of the discrimination that is stil
colored mechanics and laborers, ther

Resolved, (8) That this Conferen
such discrimination is morally and ecc

On motion of Jordan (L. G.) of Maine, Professor Gurney of Hillsdale College was invited to a seat in Conference with the usual courtesies.

On motion of Miner of Wisconsin, it was voted that the time for the introduction of new business terminate at the close of the morning session Monday, Sept. 9.

The committee on home missions presented a report which was received and considered item by item. As adopted the report was as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOME MISSIONS

1. We recommend that the payment of unpaid appropriations precede other appropriations which may be made.

2. We express our appreciation of the work of the General Conference Board, in its distribution of the home mission funds in an economical and efficient manner.

3. We endorse the Twentieth Century Church Building Fund, and urge the importance of additional contributions to this fund.

4. We authorize the General Conference Board to prepare and distribute other literature concerning home missions.

5. We recommend that General Conference Board be instructed to take definite steps to secure larger receipts from our churches for home mission purposes, and that greater emphasis be laid upon home mission work.

6. We recommend that appropriations for home missions be made as follows:

(1) The General Conference Board shall concentrate the home mission funds upon interests at strategic points.

(2) It shall choose only those interests where there is the strongest probability of success.

(3) The board shall have the right to advise in choosing a pastor or missionary for any interest that it is aiding.

priation shall cease at the end of

(6) During the period of be
shall agree to raise for the Gener
per cent of the appropriation ma
mission days, appoint a mission
General Conference rules.

(7) Appropriations shall be
extension funds, and shall go to
than to support ministers, the su
tion rather than the rule.

(8) An interest that is the
shall be secured by a deed to Ge
ciation or Yearly Meeting to whi
incorporated.

(9) All appropriations, unles
sidered of the nature of loans w
the rate of at least ten per cent
after the appropriation ceases; a
charged on delinquent interests.

(10) Churches shall make an
ference Board while being aided.

(11) Conditionally or uncon
ations shall not be made in exces

Wesley of Rhode Island presented a resolution relating to divorce, which was referred to the committee on doctrine.

The committee on Bible cause presented a report. On motion of Graif of Michigan, it was adopted as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BIBLE CAUSE

Your committee on the Bible cause respectfully present the following report: Since we regard the Bible as the only inspired revelation of the will of God to men, upon subjects of religious thought, human duty, and the future life, that it is really the Word of God, and should be put to the front, and placed in the hands of the people, therefore

Resolved, (1) That we approve and urge the hearty co-operation of our churches in supporting the work of the American Bible Society and its State auxiliaries in the circulation of the Holy Scriptures among the nations of the world, at the cost of printing, to those that are able to buy, and gratuitously to those unable.

(2) That we hail with joy the intelligent, critical, and persistent researches and discoveries in Bible lands which are shedding new light upon and confirming the Scriptures, believing that whatever gives us a more intelligent view of the Bible will in the end tend to an increase of true spirituality and practical piety.

(3) That we especially commend the fact of a more critical study of the Bible, which is being made prominent in our colleges and theological schools, and urge that increased attention be given to its systematic study.

E. W. RICKER,
R. E. BENJAMIN,
M. W. TURNER,
J. B. DAVIS,
A. A. GLOVIER,
} *Committee.*

...munication from the Free Baptis

To the General Conference of ...
ence at Harper's Ferry, W. ...

The Free Baptist Conference ... respectful Christian greeting.

In accordance with the resolu... and also at our present session, ... mitted herewith, we hereby appl... relations of membership in you... deem essential to promote our ... properly consolidate the great an...

Under our beloved and renow... neither the institutions of learnin... the channels of efficient service, ... are yielding to that broader spi... found expression in past corre... State Associations, and in our u... society.

Enclosed you will find a copy ... which has been for thirty-five ... intact, though a generation has ... thought are changing. The R... gives a fair account of our memb...

We may say that our pastoral ...

your plans and institutions serve our needs in our comparative isolation as Free Baptists better than any other, and in so far as these matters are under our direction and control we are with you.

A delegate was appointed to attend your Conference, but cannot go, and we shall this time lack a personal representative; but we pray that the Master of assemblies may be with you and prosper the cause.

On behalf of the Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia,

EDWIN CROWELL,

Clerk of F. B. Conf. of Nova Scotia.

Glenwood, Yarmouth Co., Nova Scotia, Sept. 2, 1901.

Resolutions

Minutes, 1900, p. 31: "We think it advisable for us in the interest of our foreign mission work to be connected with the Free Baptist Triennial Conference." . . . "That the executive be instructed to confer with the Free Baptist Conference Board asking if, on terms of this resolution or upon what terms, this Yearly Meeting can become a member of the aforesaid Conference, retaining all our rights and privileges as a denomination."

In reference to the request of the Nova Scotia Free Baptist Conference, we find no obstacle in their faith and practice to prevent their becoming a part of our General Conference, and we recommend that they be furnished the desired information as to the necessary steps to be taken to secure admission, with the further explanation that becoming a part of the General Conference will in no way interfere with their local methods of work, but that they will have every privilege now accorded to the other Associations and Yearly Meetings belonging to this General Conference.

Resolved, That the Nova Scotia Conference of Free Baptists be cordially invited to petition this body for admittance to the same, and send delegates to our next session.

Resolved, That it is with no ordinary degree of pleasure this Conference receives the communication of the Nova Scotia Free Baptists asking what steps they shall take to become members of

this body. In responding to their inquiries we wish to assure them of the cordial reception that will be accorded to those whom we have long esteemed so highly for their works' sake, and whom we have learned to love through the cordial fraternal relationship that has hitherto existed between us. Rejoicing in the greater efficiency that will attend our efforts through this closer union, we extend to them our hearty greeting and bid them God-speed in the prosecution of their local work.

In regard to the request of the Cave Spring Association of Free-will Baptists of Alton, Mo., for membership in our body, your committee find no basis of action in the meager information at hand, and we recommend that the Cave Spring Association be so informed, and further correspondence solicited.

Respecting requests for the location of the next session of General Conference:

Three requests have been presented, one from Rhode Island Association, one from New York Central Association, and one from Ohio.

Rhode Island will entertain General Conference free of charge; Ohio will do as well as any other place in the matter of entertainment; and the Central Association guarantees entertainment for everybody at fifty cents a day.

It is twenty-seven years since the Rhode Island Association had a session of General Conference, fifteen years since it was held in Ohio, and twenty-four years since it was held within the bounds of the Central Association.

The reasons for locating at any one of these places in preference to the others do not seem to justify the committee in making a specific recommendation. We give the basis for judgment as far as we can gather information, and ask the Conference to decide a question that depends more upon the wishes of members of Conference than in relative advantages of the places from which requests have come.

R. M. LAWRENCE,
THOMAS H. STACY,
A. E. WILSON,
} *Committee.*

These several recommendations of the committee were acted upon separately and in each case were adopted.

On motion of Jordan (L. G.) of Maine, it was voted that when we adjourn it be to 2 o'clock this afternoon in this place.

At this point a telegram conveying "greetings, prayers, and cheer" from the Ministers' Institute, then in session at Cobb Divinity School, was received.

On motion of Comber of Kansas, a resolution relating to the distribution of printed minutes of General Conference was referred to the committee on finance.

Jordan (L. G.) of Maine presented the report of the president of the Free Baptist Pastors' Correspondence School, and the same was referred to the committee on education. The report was as follows:

REPORT OF PRESIDENT OF THE CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL

The Correspondence School, during the last three years, has in some good measure accomplished the work for which it was instituted by the General Conference. The course of study has been adjusted to meet the intellectual qualifications required for ordination to the Free Baptist ministry. This may be viewed as one of its main objects, while not forgetting that another is to serve the needs of others already in the ministry. The school stands side by side with any theological school as a bulwark against an ignorant Free Baptist pulpit, of which the world in our day has little need.

The number of students enrolled has not been large. Strenuous efforts have been made to secure students by the faculty, and many discussions of ways and means have been held. May this session of the General Conference by the weight of its august authority bring a pressure that can be felt to bear on those for whom the

school exists who are not yet taking its studies. The expense has been reduced to its lowest terms, and yet in some cases that fact stands in the way of enrollment. It may be questioned if one is incapable of gathering the small sum required for studying and understanding the foundations of our faith, whether he is not incapable of accomplishing the work of the Christian ministry. The pulpit is not to be a refuge for the incompetent. God forbid! Our ministry is called not only to do the Lord's work *but to do it well.*

Therefore, with some urgency we request General Conference to value highly this department of its work, and cause Yearly and Quarterly Meetings to hear a voice constraining them to require this course of study of all their "pastors, prophets, and teachers" who have not taken the course or its equivalent. The theological schools at Bates and Hillsdale, in all feasible cases, are to be patronized; the Correspondence School only in the absence of ability to attend them.

The secretary and treasurer of the school will, in his report, make known the statistical record of the past three years, with the recommendation that the appropriation for the school be continued.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. HOWE,

President of F. B. Correspondence School.

Lewiston, Me., Sept. 5, 1901.

A report from Rev. Lewis P. Clinton of Africa was presented by the corresponding secretary, and referred to the committee on foreign missions. The report was as follows:

ABSTRACT OF REPORT FROM REV. LEWIS P. CLINTON

FORTVILLE, GRAND BASSA, LIBERIA, WEST AFRICA.

To the General Conference of Free Baptists:

After studying fifteen years in your country I have returned to my native land, where I arrived Sept. 19, 1899. As long as I am permitted to stay in this present life, so long will I make known to

bese my brothers what a great thing the Lord has done for me. I ind no difficulty in making myself understood by my hearers. I peak three languages, the Bassa, Kroo, and Vey.

I am stationed at a large trading-post in Liberia. Everyone iere desires to learn the English language. I shall look to you 'ree Baptists to sustain me in this arduous yet most glorious work. he superintendent of the Bassa county has already granted me wo hundred acres of land within the borders of Liberia. I see no ibstacle here to molest our work. Here is an open door. Let us nter while we may. Ever since my arrival the leading men and romen have been visiting me constantly in order to find out he nature of my mission. The older people confess that their iearts are hardened, but they are anxious to have their children aught a better way of life. Two buildings—a thatch roof one nswering at present for the boys' dormitory, and a zinc [he neans tin or corrugated iron] roof building to be occupied by eachers and girls—are incomplete. On account of lack of means, he farm for raising tropical vegetables, which will assist in supply- ng the mission with provisions, has been poorly carried on.

This being the beginning of our mission here it will cost a little ver $1,000 to support it for one year during the first four years. After taking everything into consideration, I have decided to take twenty native boys and five girls to be trained, in this first mission station, for five years. Then afterwards we will be prepared to take any number up to a hundred. It will cost about $25 for the support of a boy for one year, and about $30 for the support of a girl for a year.

Some of the leading Americo-Africans, or Liberians, are asking me on what terms I can take their children. The poorer class who are willing to come into the mission and work for their schooling, being treated like the native children, are received freely by the other missionaries in the various counties of the republic. How- ever, I will wait for your decision as to the way in which the civilized Liberian children are to be received. Please let your statement on this point be very clear and precise, in order that I may act wisely. During my short Christmas vacation I made use

of what possible chance I had for traveling, seeking to as
how wide a range this field of ours has, at the same time ob
some of the religious ceremonies of the natives. Judgin
what I saw and heard I can conscientiously say our work, if
and wisely conducted here, will have a great influence, es
among the natives. I am well aware how urgent the wo
home and in India, but let us Free Baptists continue to lau
into the deep and God will not cease to enlarge our hori
came here and I mean to stay in the name of the Free B
representing the young people of Maine. No particular na
yet been applied to the mission. When I learn that you
favor of the movement, then I will have the land surveye
deeded in the name of the Free Baptists. For the carryi
work of this kind in this country I am entitled to six hundre
of land in one place. I do not deem it advisable to take up
land at present. As a royal and loyal son of the soil, I have
to reserved land anywhere in the vicinity of my birth. I
have been very glad if it had been so that I could go am
near relatives and start my work, but existing circumstances
me from taking this step. I am satisfied, however, with my
location, for it is a central trading-point for the Bassa and
other tribes.

In conclusion, perhaps it would be well to state briefly
that appears to me as a working hypothesis. In the first pl
will do nothing at present toward translating the Bassa la
that is, reduce it to writing. Every Bassa man and woman
that all his or her male children should speak the English la
fluently. A Bassa man thinks you insult him if he greets
the English language and you reply in his own tongue. T
hundred acres of land already secured is being cleared, a
buildings erected. Our scholars, just emerging from h
surroundings, need the strictest and best kind of training
culture and various mechanical arts, as well as in books.
good working equipments at our command and the scholars
the right use of them, the station will thus, ere long, becon

supporting, so far as its local needs are concerned. But this station is only a base from which we hope to send out workers as fast as they are trained, in order to illumine native tribes around.

In all the phases of the work a thorough religious instruction will be sought with the utmost care, by all who will assist in shaping the future lives of these simple heirs from these long years of savagery. I was once a heathen lad, but through the mercy of God I am what I am to-day; therefore I know how much patience and sacrifice it costs to bring about the salvation of my unfortunate country youths. I trust that you will not fail to see the great necessity of the work here begun, and will authorize the young people of Maine to stay up my hands, that having put my hand to the plow I may not look back.

After prayer by Wynn of Ohio, adjournment was declared.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Pursuant to adjournment Conference assembled at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon, President Lord in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Osgood of Massachusetts.

Roll was called, and a quorum ascertained to be present.

The committee on correspondence presented a report, which was received and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE

Your committee on correspondence recommend

(1) That Rev. C. G. Mosher be a fraternal delegate to the Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia, and that he assure that Conference that we would gladly welcome it as a member of this Conference without any change on its part.

(2) That Prof. A. W. Anthony be our messenger to the Free Baptist Conference of New Brunswick, and that he convey to that Conference our cordial invitation for it to become a member of this Conference.

(3) That Rev. W. J. Fulton be a fraternal delegate to the General Eldership of the Church of God.

(4) That Rev. G. A. Gordon be a fraternal delegate to the General Association of General Baptists, and that he express our appreciation of the letter received from their corresponding secretary and a desire on our part for closer relationship.

(5) That J. A. Howe, D. D., be a messenger to the National Council of Congregationalists to be held at Portland, Me.; all delegates to have the power of substitution.

(6) We recommend that the Conference Board send corresponding messengers to the Christian Conference, and such other bodies as they may deem best, provided no expense is incurred.

(7) We also recommend that by correspondence, by visits of the field agents, and in all other practical ways we seek to interest the Free Baptist Associations of the South, of various names, in our work and to cultivate a closer acquaintance, trusting that such an acquaintance will be mutually beneficial.

(8) In respect to a welcome to the Union Association of Tennessee and the Shenandoah and Piedmont Association of West Virginia, the welcome should be extended by the president of General Conference by giving the hand of fellowship to the delegates of those Associations.

G. B. HOPKINS,
M. H. TOBEY,
F. E. BRIGGS,
A. W. BRADEEN,
G. H. FREEMAN,
} *Committee.*

The committee on doctrine presented their report, which was received and on motion adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DOCTRINE.

Whereas, in view of tendency of the times, and a prevalent feeling among our people that the various statements of doctrine are confusing and disturbing,

Resolved, That we urge all our pastors and teachers to exercise the utmost care in all statements of religious truth which might seem to be in opposition to Free Baptist doctrine as stated in our Treatise of Faith. This declaration is not to be construed, however, as discouraging a free spirit of inquiry by which the explanation of Scripture truth shall be made clearer and more effective.

Resolved, That we recommend our ministers to strongly emphasize evangelical doctrines as set forth in Scripture and the Treatise, such as the deity and atonement of Christ, immersion as the only (consistent) baptism, continual growth in the divine life, the imperative duty of conforming to the teaching and example of Jesus Christ, and the reality of sin and the inevitable consequences thereof. In view of the alarming increase of divorce, we would reaffirm the former action of this body on this subject. We also favor the speedy enactment of uniform divorce laws, and recommend our ministers not to remarry parties divorced for other than Scriptural reasons.

E. O. DICKINSON,
J. N. RICH,
A. B. HOWARD,
ALICE L. HULCE,
B. M. OSGOOD,
} *Committee.*

Mosher of Michigan presented the following correspondence relating to the attempted assassination of President McKinley:

To the Secretary of State, Washington.

FOR MRS. MCKINLEY:—

The Free Baptists of America assembled in triennial conference at Harper's Ferry, W. Va., rejoice that the beloved President lives;

they pray that he may be speedily restored in health to his exalted office, and they beg that Mrs. McKinley will accept the assurance of their esteem and condolence.

[Signed] DR. RIVINGTON D. LORD, *Pres.*
HON. N. S. PURINTON, *Clerk.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 7, 1901.

Rev. Dr. R. D. Lord, Free Baptist Conference, Harper's Ferry, W. Va.:

Your message of sympathy conveyed to Mrs. McKinley, in whose name I am charged to thank you.

ALVEY A. ADEE, *Acting Sec. of State.*

The report of the committee on ministerial record was presented and adopted as follows:

Report of Accessions to the Free Baptist Ministry by Ordination

Name	Age	Date of Ordination	Authority of Ordaining Council	Preparation in Studies	Experience
P. H. Downing	.	Aug.28, 1898	Prairie City Q. M.		
S. E. Very	45	Aug.31 "	Waupun Q.M.and Wis.Y.M.		
C. W. Titus	45	Sept. 4 "	Washington Q. M.		
B. D. Kemp	35	Sept.12 "	Mt. Zion church	Leland University.	
Geo. C. Bagwill	33	Oct. 2 "	Exam. Board Cen. Ill. Y. M.	Common school education.	5 years as assistant.
Harry B. Hemmerly	.	Oct. 12 "	Waupun Q.M.and Wis.Y.M.	Full Theo. course, Hillsdale.	
Anson Burdett Howard	29	Oct. 20 "	New Hampshire Y. M.	Bates coll., Hartford Theo sch.	Pulpit supply.
J. H. Dickson	30	Nov. "	Vermont Y.M. Ord. Council.	Academic, special Theo. study	Several years local preacher.
Charles Henry Tucker	34	Nov.15 "	New Hampshire Y. M.	Good business education	Evangelical work.
Isaac Russell	.	Nov. "	Villa Ridge Q. M.	Common school education	25 years.
C. S. Johnson	34	Dec.11 "	Iowa Y. M.	1 yr. at Hillsdale.	
R. K. Bradfield	34	Dec.14 "	S. E. Mo. Y. M., Neb. Y. M.	State University	2 years.
G. W. Lyon	40	Dec.18 "	Potter Co. Q. M.	Common school education.	
Newton C. McKoon	63	Jan.19, 1899	Holland Purchase Y. M.	Satisfactory	4 years preaching.
John H. Oxreider	32	Feb.25 "	Minnesota Y. M.	Preparatory at Parker coll	2 years.
Mott L. Dewey	27	Feb.27 "	Branch Q. M., State Com.	Theo. course, Hillsdale coll.	Local work as pastor.
F. A. Brass	51	Mar.5 "	Montcalm Q. M.	Prescribed course	Local work.
Elbert W. VanAken	27	April 7 "	Hillsdale Q. M., State Com.	Full Theo. course, Hillsdale	Y.M.C.A. work, supplying.
Angus Matheson	.	June "	Genesee (Mich.) Q. M.	Undergrad. Toronto Univ.	
Frank Pearson	34	June 6 "	New Hampshire Y. M.	Bates coll., Cobb Div. Sch.	Pulpit supply.
Luther D. Tibbetts	.	June 6 "	Maine F. B. Ministers' Conf.	Graduate Bates coll.	Pulpit supply.
Joseph Brown	49	July 5 "	Israelite Church	Ordinary education.	
E. L. True	26	Aug. "	Hillsdale Q. M, State Com.	Full Theo. course, Hillsdale	Y.M.C.A. work, supplying.
John Byrd	39	Aug 10 "	Ohio F.B. Ministers' Conf.	Homiletic course only	5 years.
T. W. Lincoln	41	Aug.29 "	S. E. Missouri Y. M.	Limited	9 years.
Brett H. Taylor	29	Sept. 3 "	Hillsdale Q. M., State Com.	Full Theo. course.	Local church, college work.
M. Fox	48	Oct. 1, 1899	Exam. Board Cen. Ill. Y. M.	Common school	5 years.
H. M. Turney	50	Oct. 1, "	" " "	High school	11 years city mission work.
Chas. A. Bell	30	Oct.12 "	Maine Ministers' Conference	Limited	Lay worker.
H. M. Terrel	27	Oct.14 "	F. B. Church (Ala.)	Good.	
H. Terrel	23	Oct.14 "	" "	Limited.	
William Fisher	30	Oct.22 "	New Madrid Q. M.		
Harry E. Wolcott	23	Nov.12 "	Nebraska Y. M.	Nebraska State University	1 year in ministry.

Herbert R. Saunders . .	25	Nov. 15, 1899	New Hampshire Y. M. . . .	Partial course, Bib. Train. sch.	Extensive evangelistic work.
F. J. Dark	30	"	Maine State Asso.	Biblical Training School .	
Ira C. Moody	34	"	Van Buren Q. M., State Com.	Hillsdale college	Y.M.C.A. work and supply.
A. C. Church	25	"	" " "	" "	Local work as pastor.
T. J. Deckard	42	"	Union Grove church.		
A. D. Castleberry . . .	38	"	Pine Valley church.		
John Coleman	38	April 4, 1900	Israelite church	Ordinary education.	
H. J. Piper	.	May "	Maine State Asso.	Bates college, Cobb Div. sch.	1 year preaching.
C. O. Wright	.	May "	" " " . . .	" " "	Several years preaching.
Edmund B. Tetley . .	28	June 11 "	New Hampshire Y. M. . .	Bates coll., 2 yrs. Cobb Div.	Supply and pastoral work.
J. B. Ranger	28	June 14 "	Maine State Asso.	Biblical Training School.	
John W. Farrell	46	June 14 "	New Hampshire Y. M. . .	Divinity Correspond. course	Pastoral work.
Chas. Berry Osborne .	27	June 28 "	" " " . . .	General education	" "
Wm. D. McFarland . .	50	June 30 "	Schuyler Q. M.	. . . . .	Preaching 10 years.
Willis D. King	24	Aug. 10 "	Michigan State Committee .	Course recommended by state	2 years as evangelist.
F. W. Chase	35	Aug. "	Ohio River Y. M.	Prescribed course	4 years active service.
Thomas York	50	Sept. "	Southern Kansas Y. M. . .	General Conference course .	Several years preaching.
Thomas C. Ferguson . .	28	Sept. "	Nebraska Y. M.	. . . . .	3 years preaching.
W. W. Jacobs	45	Oct. 7 "	Exam. Board Cen. Ill. Y. M.	Common school	Several years.
J. E. Strickland	25	Oct. 14 "	Mt. Moriah Asso.	" "	
George W. Wilson . .	45	Oct. 14 "	F. B. church (Ala.)	Good.	
W. A. Robbins	.	Oct. "	Maine State Asso.	Bates coll., 1 yr. Div. Sch. .	2 years preaching.
Jeremiah B. Griffin . .	39	Nov. "	E. Penn. Conf.	Richmond Theo. School. . .	Several years mission work.
Burton H. Tilton . . .	29	Nov. 14 "	New Hampshire Y. M. . .	New Hampton Institute . .	Pastoral work.
Lester W. Pease	38	Nov. 14 "	Vermont Y. M. Ord. Council	Bates coll., Cobb Divinity .	
F. C. Longley	24	Nov. 20 "	Waupun Q. M., Wis. Y. M.	General Conference course .	Y. M. C. A. work.
Sydney A. Thurlow . .	49	Dec. 18 "	Maine State Ministers' Conf.	" " "	1 year licensed preacher.
Wilhelmina E. Thurlow .	36	Dec. 18 "	" " "	" " "	3 years evangelistic work.
W. A. J. Smith	42	Dec. "	Mt. Union Q. M.	Common school.	
W. F. Cole	36	"	Branch Q. M., State Com. .	Hillsdale college.	Evangelistic, pastoral work.
S. P. Upchurch	35	"	Union Grove church.		
Taplin J. Winslade . .	29	Jan. 30, 1901	New Hampshire Y. M. . . .	2 yrs. academy, 2 yrs. Theo.	Evangelistic, pastoral work.
R. O. Thompson . . .	37	Feb. 28 "	Sanilac Q. M.	. . . . .	Local work.
Geo. B. Drake	30	Mar. 7 "	Holland Purchase Y. M. . .	Prescribed course	8 years pastoral work.
C. D. Whalen	35	Mar. "	Genesee Y. M.	" "	Several years licensed pr.
S. J. Bird	60	Mar. "	Mt. Union Q. M.	Common school.	
F. D. Stovall	45	May 5 "	Cairo Q. M.		
J. D. Skellet	34	June 2 "	Gibson Q. M.	Prescribed course	2 years preaching.

A. B. Passmore	36	June 8, 1901	St. Lawrence Q. M.	. . . . .	Served as licensed preacher.
A. M. Patterson	30	June 22 "	H's Ferry, Charlestown Coun	Howard Univ., Theo. Dept .	
Irving Holmes Gray . .	24	June 27 "	New Hampshire Y. M. . .	Bates coll., 2 yrs. Cobb Div.	Pastoral work.
John P. Roberts	36	July 2 "	" " . . .	Biblical Training School . .	Evangelistic and pastoral.
Frank R. Fonn	24	July 7 "	Hillsdale Q. M., State Com.	Theo. course, Hillsdale . .	Y.M.C.A. work, pulpit sup.
T. H. Scammon	.	July 9 "	Maine State Asso.	Bates coll., Cobb Divinity .	Preached one year.
Mabel Caroline Andrews	30	July 17 "	Maine State Ministers' Conf.	Bates coll., Cobb Divinity .	Pulpit supply.
E. A. Saunders	35	July 18 "	" "	Biblical Training School . .	" "
Nathan L. Brass	58	July 25 "	Lansing Q. M., State Com.	Prescribed course	Local preaching.
Simon Hawkins	28	July 28 "			
E. W. Hughes	50	"	Branch Q. M., State Com. .	Common education	Local church work.
E. T. Cook	.	Aug. 11 "	Edgecomb Q. M.		
Mrs. C. D. Allen . . .	.	Aug. 25 "	Ashtabula Q.M., O.& P.Y.M	Richfield High school.	

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F. J. Dark	30	"	Maine State Asso.	Biblical Training School .	
Ira C. Moody	34	"	Van Buren Q. M., State Com.	Hillsdale college	Y.M.C.A. work and supply.
A. C. Church	25	"	" " "	" "	Local work as pastor.
T. J. Deckard	42	"	Union Grove church.		
A. D. Castleberry . . .	38	"	Pine Valley church.		
John Coleman	38	April 4, 1900	Israelite church	Ordinary education.	
H. J. Piper	.	May "	Maine State Asso.	Bates college, Cobb Div. sch.	1 year preaching.
C. O. Wright	.	May "	" " "	" " "	Several years preaching.
Edmund B. Tetley . .	28	June 11 "	New Hampshire Y. M. . .	Bates coll., 2 yrs. Cobb Div.	Supply and pastoral work.
J. B. Ranger	28	June 14 "	Maine tate Asso.	Biblical Training School.	
John W. arrell	40	June 14 "	New Hampshire Y. M. . .	Divinity Correspond. course	Pastoral work.
Chas. Berry Osborne .	27	June 28 "	" " . . .	General education	" "
Wm. D. McFarland . .	50	June 30 "	Schuyler Q. M.	. . . .	Preaching 10 years.
Willis D. King	24	Aug. 10 "	Michigan State Committee .	Course recommended by state	2 years as evangelist.
F. W. Chase	35	Aug. "	Ohio River Y. M	Prescribed course	4 years active service.
Thomas York	50	Sept. "	Southern Kansas Y. M. . .	General Conference course .	Several years preaching.
Thomas C. Ferguson . .	28	Sept. "	Nebraska Y. M.	. . . . .	3 years preaching.
W. W. Jacobs	45	Oct. 7 "	Exam. Board Cen. Ill. Y. M.	Common school	Several years.
J. E. Strickland	25	Oct. 14 "	Mt. Moriah Asso.	" "	
George W. Wilson . .	45	Oct. 14 "	F. B. church (Ala.)	Good.	
W. A. Robbins	.	Oct. "	Maine State Asso.	Bates coll., 1 yr. Div. Sch. .	2 years preaching.
Jeremiah B. Griffin . .	39	Nov. "	E. Penn. Conf.	Richmond Theo. School. . .	Several years mission work.
Burton H. Tilton . . .	29	Nov. 14 "	New Hampshire Y. M. . .	New Hampton Institute . .	Pastoral work.
Lester W. Pease	38	Nov. 14 "	Vermont Y. M. Ord. Council	Bates coll., Cobb Divinity .	
F. C. Longley	24	Nov. 20 "	Waupun Q. M., Wis. Y. M.	General Conference course .	Y. M. C. A. work.
Sydney A. Thurlow . .	49	Dec. 18 "	Maine State Ministers' Conf.	" " "	1 year licensed preacher.
Wilhelmina E. Thurlow .	36	Dec. 18 "	" " "	" " "	3 years evangelistic work.
W. A. J. Smith	42	Dec. "	Mt. Union Q. M.	Common school.	
W. F. Cole	36	"	Branch Q. M., State Com. .	Hillsdale college.	Evangelistic, pastoral work.
S. P. Upchurch	35	"	Union Grove church.		
Taplin J. Winslade . .	29	Jan. 30, 1901	New Hampshire Y. M. . . .	2 yrs. academy, 2 yrs. Theo.	Evangelistic, pastoral work.
R. O. Thompson . . .	37	Feb. 28 "	Sanilac Q. M.	. . . . .	Local work.
Geo. B. Drake	30	Mar. 7 "	Holland Purchase Y. M. . .	Prescribed course	8 years pastoral work.
C. D. Whalen	35	Mar. "	Genesee Y. M.	" "	Several years licensed pr.
S. J. Bird	60	Mar. "	Mt. Union Q. M.	Common school.	
F. D. Stovall	45	May 5 "	Cairo Q. M.		
J. D. Skellet	34	June 2 "	Gibson Q. M.	Prescribed course	2 years preaching.

A. B. Passmore	36	June 8, 1901	St. Lawrence Q. M.	. . . . .	Served as licensed preacher.
A. M. Patterson	30	June 22 "	H's Ferry, Charlestown Coun	Howard Univ., Theo. Dept.	
Irving Holmes Gray . .	24	June 27 "	New Hampshire Y. M. . .	Bates coll., 2 yrs. Cobb Div.	Pastoral work.
John P. Roberts	36	July 2 "	" " . . .	Biblical Training School . .	Evangelistic and pastoral.
Frank R. Fonn	24	July 7 "	Hillsdale Q. M., State Com.	Theo. course, Hillsdale . .	Y.M.C.A. work, pulpit sup.
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Accessions from Other Denominations

Name	Date of Recognition in Our Body	From What Denomination	Pastorates Hitherto Held	Length of Service
George Brimacombe	Aug. 20, 1898	Methodist Episcopal		Several years.
Thomas R. Ribble	" "	" "	Casnovia (Mich.)	6 years.
M. K. Cross	Feb. "	Congregational	Fairbank and Horton church	3 years.
L. H. Metcalf	"	Methodist.		
Martin Parker	"	Missionary Baptist.	[and Roulette.	
H. L. Feathers	Dec. "	Methodist Episcopal	Lodi Mission, Hawkinsville	20 years.
Harvey Dockum	May 27, 1899	United Brethren.	[Chapel.	
J. A. Cochran	Oct. 1 "	General Baptists	Camp Creek, DeSoto, Pates	5 years.
M. Turney	Oct. 1 "	Missionary Baptists	St. Louis Mission.	
T. J. Parker	"	United Brethren.		
T. H. Shannon	Nov. "	A. M. E.		
G. I. Lowe	Nov. "	Methodist.		
J. N. Bowker	June 9, 1900	Wesleyan Methodist.	Peckatonic, W. Milton, Wis.	3 years.
Frederick G. Matthews	July 2 "	Gospel Workers.	1st Naples and Italy chs.	8 years in evangelistic work.
J. W. Noble	Feb. 16, 1901	Christian	Greenbush church	Several years.
J. H. Helser	May 17 "	Methodist Episcopal.		
R. W. Emerson	June 30 "	Missionary Baptist.		
J. W. Hoyt	June 8 "	Regular Baptist.		Many years.
W. H. Carter		Missionary Baptist	Carmi, Ill.	1 year.
A. D. Chrisjohn		Baptist.		
W. G. Cooper		Methodist.		
J. J. Hancock		Congregational.		

Total, 22.

ES OF THE THIRTY-FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE

DECEASED MINISTERS, 1898

NAME	RESIDENCE	DATE OF DEATH	AGE	TERM OF SERVICE
Modglin . . .	Ava, Ill.	Sept. 18	65	33
owell	Wells Branch, Me. . . .	Sept. 21	75	38
Smith	Long Pine, Neb.	Sept. 23	78	55
man	Pulteney, N. Y.	Nov. 21	86	58
t	Eaton, N. H.	Dec. 8	62	29
5.				

DECEASED MINISTERS, 1899

NAME	RESIDENCE	DATE OF DEATH	AGE	TERM OF SERVICE
kham	Great Valley, N. Y. . .	Jan. 1	64	
Bailey, D. D. .	Saco, Me.	Jan. 6	82	52
ward	Bear Lake, Pa.	Jan. 13	77	
. Hyde	Holton, Mich.	Jan. 15	54	7
odworth . . .	Minneapolis, Minn. . .	Jan. 24	72	47
rter	Peabody, Mass.	Jan. 24	65	35
ich	So. Pulteney, N. Y. . .	Jan. 24	45	4
eman	Wolfeboro Falls, N. H.	Jan. 29	61	30
wne	West Buxton, Me. . . .	Feb. 3	83	50
Hobbs	Freedom, N. H.	Feb. 6	75	55
dwin	Amity, Pa.	Feb. 8	73	23
k	Cherry Creek, N. Y. . .	Feb. 14	62	34
rier	Davison, Mich.	April 16	88	51
well	Arlington, Ia.	April 19	73	20
uller	Brattleboro. Vt.	April 30	77	53
ney, D. D. . .	Augusta, Me.	May 7	67	37
. . . . .	Depauville, N. Y. . . .	May 26	77	45
Crockett . . .	Mechanic Falls, Me. . .	June 25	66	22
tlefield	Vinalhaven, Me.	Aug. 13	81	55
LaDow . . .	Marengo, Ia.	Aug. 13	89	
ilson	Rock Elm, Wis.	Sept. 13	85	40
dbury, D. D. .	Providence, R. I. . . .	Sept. 15	89	61
rtin	Downington, O.	Oct. 27	70	31
inney	Wakefield, N. H. . . .	Dec. 21	87	63
ell	Atchison, Kans.	Dec. 22	71	45
. 25.				

DECEASED MINISTERS, 1900

NAME	RESIDENCE	DATE OF DEATH	AGE	TERM OF SERVICE
John Head	Jordan, Ind.	Jan. 4	89	60
James P. Longley	Madison, Me.	Mar. 8	90	59
David Boyd	E. Newport, Me.	Mar. 8	64	40
Nathan Woodworth	Welaka, Fla.	Mar. 16	76	50
M. N. Davison	Providence, R. I.	Mar. 17	85	52
John Buzzell Leighton	Vineland, N. J.	April 5	73	39
Freeman Cooper	So. Windsor, Me.	April 19	65	26
Anson Marion Ryder	Foster, Ill.	May 2	63	29
Joseph Parkyn	Homerville, Neb.	May 27	87	72
Asa Pierce	Ridgeville, Ind.	June 1	90	54
B. W. Kirk	Martinsburg, W. Va.	July 28	66	40
Charles B. Messer	Glenwood, Mo.	Aug. 2	77	
Collamore Purington	Riverside, Cal.	Aug. 3	81	58
Henry Vaughn	LaGrange, Ind.	Aug. 13	80	55
Loren E. Bixby	Belvidere, Ill.	Aug. 25	90	60
G. W. Moffatt	Sheridan, Mich.	Oct. 31	75	41
J. B. Rae	Jellasore, India.	Nov.	55	15
Ransom Dunn, D. D.	Scranton, Pa.	Nov. 9	82	63
John Price	Plattsburg, Mo.	Dec. 25	78	50
J. N. Nelson	Glen Allen, Mo.		57	29
Total, 20.				

DECEASED MINISTERS, 1901

NAME	RESIDENCE	DATE OF DEATH	AGE	TERM OF SERVICE
Otis R. Bacheler, M. D.	New Hampton, N. H.	Jan. 1	83	61
Moses Shrewsberry	Ava, Ill.	Jan. 10	65	21
Jacob Griffin	Hortonville, Wis.	Jan. 26	85	57
Morrill A. Shepard	Lebanon, Ill.	Jan. 31	66	36
A. B. Meservey, D. D.	New Hampton, N. H.	Feb. 21	70	40
Alexander Dick	Buffalo, N. Y.	Mar. 5	83	
Alvah Z. Mitchell	Riches Corners, N. Y.	April 2	81	52
D. W. Gammon	Des Moines, Ia.	April 10	75	
M. G. Pett	Rushton, Mich.	April 10	61	36
O. B. Buffum	Elma, N. Y.	May 1	83	43
C. J. Cartwright	Birdsall, N. Y.	May 8	90	65
Washington Parker	Varysburg, N. Y.	June 19	72	33
W. H. Northrup	Frankfort, Ky.	June 25	75	25
Geo. Lincoln	Flat River, Mo.	June	42	6
John B. Lash	Hillsdale, Mich.	July 17	60	30
Robt. Martin	" "	July	81	60
J. C. Ferris	North Lansing, Mich.	July 21	83	52
Total, 17.				

Of these sixty-seven deceased brethren, four had reached the age of ninety. The youngest was forty-two. The terms of service of sixty-two are given. These represent a total of 2,547 years, and an average of forty-one years. One brother had served in the ministry sixty-five years.

A. L. FREEMAN,
GEO. F. MOSHER,
GEO. H. BALL,
Committee.

The report of the committee on education was received and adopted as follows:

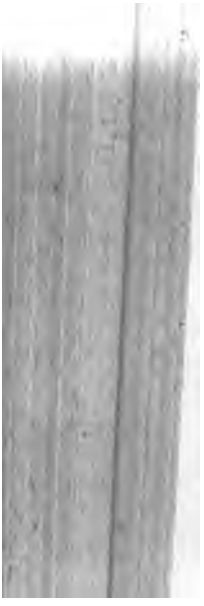
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

1. We recognize the great value and importance of the work of the Correspondence School for the last three years, and we wish to repeat the recommendation adopted at the last General Conference, that candidates for license and ordination hereafter be required to pursue these or higher courses of study before they are licensed or ordained.

2. We recommend that an appropriation of fifty dollars per year be made for the next three years for the expenses of this school.

3. We recommend that the officers and instructors of the Correspondence School for the next three years be as follows: Rev. J. A. Howe, D. D., president, and professor of systematic theology; Rev. B. F. Hayes, D. D., secretary and treasurer, professor of philosophy and the sciences; Rev. A. T. Salley, D. D., professor of Old Testament literature and exegesis; Rev. A. W. Anthony, A.M., professor of New Testament literature and exegesis; Rev. J. M. Davis, D. D., professor of homiletics and church polity; Rev. D. B. Reed, D. D., professor of ecclesiastical history; Rev. J. T. Ward, D. D., professor of ethics and apologetics.

4. We recommend that the several Yearly Meetings be requested to report to the General Conference on the nature and extent of the special training for the ministry of all candidates who have been ordained or licensed to preach during each year.



the General Conference the
attending colleges, and sp
own institutions.

6. We recommend that
quested to report the numb
completed courses which fit
institutions of learning, an
actually pursuing or expec
study, with the proportion e
our denomination.

7. We recommend that
send out to our pastors and
information in regard to the
institutions.

8. We approve the actio
cieties in securing courses o
Bible study, and recommend
advantages be improved when

Whereas, it has come to p
tion that our ministers shoul
liberal education, and colleg
established for that purpose, a

Whereas, God's Word decl

Word should be inspired by the Holy Spirit to do that, for He, the Holy Spirit, hath said, "No prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation."

G. C. CHASE,
T. A. STEVENS,
L. G. JORDAN,
J. M. PAINE,
W. J. FULTON,
Committee.

The special committee on election of members of Conference Board presented a report, which was discussed and adopted as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ELECTING MEMBERS OF CONFERENCE BOARD

1. We recommend that nominations for the Conference Board be made from the floor, and that no speeches be allowed in offering nominations.

2. That the names of all persons nominated be printed in suitable form and in suitable number for the use of the members as ballots, space being left for the insertion of additional names, said names to be printed in alphabetical order.

3. That when the ballot is taken it be for the twenty-one members of the board on one ballot, and that the names of all for whom the member does *not* wish to vote be erased, any names not on the printed list to be added if the voter desires.

4. That if a member votes for more than twenty-one persons or for less than seven women as required by the constitution, said ballot shall be regarded as fatally defective.

The members will remember that they may vote for any persons in good standing in the denomination whether they are or are not members of the Conference, provided they vote for at least seven women. Also that the Conference Board will be elected for three years from the time they enter upon the discharge of their duties, which will be on July 1, 1902.

A. L. HULCE,
L. M. WEBB,
JOHN H. WOLFE,
Committee.

Sixty-eight nominations were at this time received from the floor, and the clerk directed to prepare a printed ballot. The nominations were as follows:

NOMINATIONS FOR MEMBERS OF CONFERENCE BOARD

Anthony, Mrs. L. P., R. I.; Avery, Mrs. Sarah C. G., N. H.; Ball, George H., N. Y.; Barton, Mrs. Anna, Mich.; Brackett, N. C., W. Va.; Bradeen, A. W., N. H.; Carr, E. L., N. H.; Chamberlain, R. W., O.; Chase, George C., Me.; Cheney, Mrs. E. B., R. I.; Coldren, M. J., India.; Collins, Miss Agnes H., N. H.; Comber, Fred, Kan.; Copp, Mrs. Ellen A., Mich.; Deering, Miss Harriet, Me.; DeMeritte, Miss Laura A., N. H.; Dickinson, E. O., Ia.; Durgin, Mrs. L. M. P., Minn.; Ford, Henry M., Mich.; Freeman, A. L., Mass.; Fulton, W. J., O.; Given, Arthur, R. I.; Gordon, G. A., Ill.; Graif, Philip, Mich.; Griffin, Mrs. L. C., N. Y.; Gurney, C. H., Mich.; Harrington, J. S., N. H.; Holt, George R., N. Y.; Hopkins, G. B., Mich.; House, J. W., Ind.; Howe, J. A., Me.; Hulce, Mrs. Alice, Mich.; Hull, J. J., Wis.; Jordan, B. C., Me.; Jordan, Mrs. Hattie K., Me.; Jordan, J. B., N. H.; Kennan, R. R., Minn.; Knowlton, Hiram, Me.; Larrabee, H. B., N. Y.; Lawrence, Mrs. A. L., Tenn.; Lawrence, R. M., Minn.; Lord, R. D., N. Y.; Lucas, J. W., Tenn.; Mawhorter T. J., Ind.; McColley, C. E., Ia.; McDonald, Henry T., W. Va.; Metcalf, Edward P., R. I.; Miner, M. C., Wis.; Moody, Miss Phebe E., Mich.; Mosher, George F., Mass.; Myers, Harry S., Mich.; Patch, O. D., N. H.; Ricker, E. W., N. H.; Rogers, Mrs. Cora, N. Y.; Salley, A. T., Me.; Sherritt, L. F., O.; Simpson, Mrs. N. K., Kan.; Smith, W. S., Pa.; Space Z. A., N. Y.; Stacy, Thomas H., Me.; Steele, J. C., Wis.; VanWormer, W. P., Mich.; Waterman, G. C., N. H.; Webb, L. M., Me.; Wilson, A. E., Mass.; Wolfe, J. H., Neb.; Wood, W. R., N. Y.

On motion of Webb of Maine, it was voted that the election of members of Conference Board and other officers shall be a special order on Monday next, at two o'clock in the afternoon.

The committee on foreign missions presented a report ich was considered item by item and adopted, except- item nine, relating to the establishment of a mission Africa, which was referred back to the committee. e items adopted were as follows: (For item 9, see 109.)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN MISSIONS

. We as a denomination have great reason for gratitude Almighty God for the good degree of temporal and spiritual sperity which has attended our work in the foreign field since we met, for sparing the lives of our workers in the field, and leading with such tender, loving hand our honored missionaries and Mrs. O. R. Bacheler, as they descended the sunset slope.

. We respectfully urge the careful reading of our India Re- t, especially by those not deeply interested in mission work, that may thus span the gulf that separates us from our work and kers.

. We recommend that persistent, prevailing prayer ascend— n individual hearts and from Conference—that God will give us rong young man and his wife consecrated and prepared to take Mr. Hamlin's work at the time of his nearly-approaching fur- gh. We believe this is our most pressing need to-day, and we that if any such possible candidate be already upon the heart nind of any one he shall at once communicate with the com- tee that has that matter in charge.

. That through their corresponding secretary General Con- nce express their gratification with the work just undertaken by Christian Endeavor Society of the church of Portland, Maine, nely the individnal support of Mrs. M. R. Phillips. We believe glorious move in the right direction, and recommend the con- ration of similar action to other bodies of Christian workers.

. We would advise the appropriation of $100 to the India k and Tract Fund with the hope that we may be able to make an annual appropriation for at least five years.

6. That General Conference keep in mind the unfinished condition of the Midnapore Bible School Hall, and the need of dormitories for the Bible School students, and make appropriations for these purposes as soon as the funds will warrant.

7. We would further advise that Dr. Helen M. Phillips be allowed to complete her furlough of one and one half years where she is now resting in Mussoorie, India, with the hope that it may enable her to return to the plains for another term of service.

8. That the term of service of our missionaries be reduced one year, i. e., from nine and one-half to eight and one-half years.

EMELINE B. CHENEY,
LAURA A. DEMERITTE,
LOU M. P. DURGIN,
O. D. PATCH,
H. M. FORD,
Committee.

On motion of Metcalf of Rhode Island, the following persons were invited to seats in Conference with the usual courtesies:

Dr. Mary W. Bacheler of India, Mrs. M. J. Coldren of India, Rev. A. W. Jefferson of Rhode Island, and Rev. Thomas McElroy of Iowa.

Stacy of Maine presented a resolution relating to the establishment of a mission in Africa which was referred to the committee on foreign missions.

On motion of Mrs. Durgin of Minnesota, Conference engaged in a special prayer service, conducted by Rev. M. J. Coldren of India, praying for guidance respecting the adoption of mission work in Africa.

Anthony of Maine presented a resolution relating to the mission in Africa, which was laid on the table and assigned for next Monday morning.

On motion of Webb of Maine, it was voted that when we adjourn it be to next Monday morning at nine o'clock, in this place.

Harrington of New Hampshire moved that we adjourn, and Conference, standing, repeated the Lord's Prayer, and then adjourned.

SATURDAY EVENING

The exercises of Saturday evening were devoted to the consideration of the subject, "The Value of the Denominational College," postponed from the previous evening. The principal address was given by Rev. G. H. Ball, D. D., president of Keuka College. He was followed by Prof. Gurney, acting dean of Hillsdale College; Mr. R. M. Lawrence, ex-president of Parker College; Mr. H. F. McDonald, principal of Storer College; and Prof. A. W. Anthony of Cobb Divinity School, Bates College.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 8

The sermon of Sunday morning, before the Conference, was preached by Rev. R. R. Kennan of Minneapolis, Minn., editor of *The Free Baptist*, from the text Matt. 28 : 19, and the subject, "The Complete Gospel."

A memorial service for those who have been called home since the last Conference was held at 3 P. M. Rev. O. D. Patch presided and read the Scripture. Dr. Ford offered prayer. Dr. Mosher presented the list of deceased ministers, as gathered by the committee on necrology.

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raised in affluence by a wealthy uncle. A missionary, fell through strong drink, found by Rev. M. J. Coldren in Calcutta, reclaimed and set to work in our mission, talented and efficient. Probably there has been no missionary, English or native, who has had more influence than he with the educated natives.

Dr. Ball spoke of the life of Dr. Ransom Dunn. Dr. Dunn was well-born. His ancestry was Anglo-Saxon-Irish-American. Then he was well-born again,—born again clear through. From the beginning he had the passion for souls. In his evangelistic work, the wicked feared him and the converted loved him. He was the recipient of a great power from God. (Dr. Ball here briefly outlined his own conversion under Dr. Dunn's preaching.) He was God-made, God-inspired, God-blessed.

Sunday evening, Secretary H. S. Myers led a young people's meeting at seven o'clock.

At 7.30, Dr. Geo. F. Mosher took charge of the evening service, and after the usual opening exercises, Rev. Philip Graif, D. D., of Hillsdale, Mich., preached the evening sermon from the text (Deut. 2 : 3) "Ye have compassed this mountain long enough; turn ye northward." Subject: "The Twofold Law of Christian Progress."

Following the preaching service, the Lord's Supper was observed. Rev. C. B. Hart and Rev. J. Erskine officiated.

MONDAY MORNING

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., Sept. 9, 1901.

General Conference assembled agreeable to adjournment, President Lord in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Turner of Nebraska.

Roll was called and a quorum ascertained to be present.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Freeman of New York presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

Whereas, the New York and Pennsylvania Yearly Meeting was admitted as one of the bodies composing General Conference at its first session held at Lowell in 1892 (see page 58 of minutes of that Conference), and whereas, by some error the name of said Yearly Meeting has been omitted from our minutes as one of said bodies,

Resolved, That the minutes of the former session of this Conference be amended by adding the New York and Pennsylvania Yearly Meeting to the list of bodies composing the General Conference.

Hall of Michigan presented a resolution relating to corresponding messengers, which was referred to the Conference Board.

Jordan (L. G.) of Maine presented a resolution relating to the card system, which was referred to the committee on finance.

Ricker of New Hampshire presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That we request the Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society to furnish the clerk, to be incorporated in the published minutes, after the treasurer's report, for the information of all, an annual report of its receipts, disbursements, expenses, and permanent funds.

On motion of Davis (W. M.) of Maine, it was voted that the clerk and Anthony of Maine be a committee on revising and publishing the minutes of this Conference.

At this point the committee of the publication of the minutes of 1898 reported, and, on motion of Wesley of Rhode Island, their work as embodied in the published minutes of the last triennial session of General Conference was approved.

Anthony of Maine presented a resolution relating to amending the By-Laws so that the mode of electing members of Conference Board shall appear in the By-Laws. Referred to the special committee on amendments.

The committee on Sunday schools presented a report which was considered item by item and adopted as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS

1. Whereas, the use of questions and answers as laid down in Sunday school Quarterlies, and as followed by many of our pastors and teachers in class work, is destructive of the life and interest of the class, and whereas the use of such Quarterlies is tending to exclude the Bible from the class room,

Resolved, That we most earnestly recommend to pastors, superintendents and teachers, that the use of Sunday school Quarterlies be *only* in the preparation of the lesson, and *not* in the class recitation.

2. Whereas, spiritual guidance and spiritual growth are the aim of the church as of the Sunday school, and the greatest care is needed in the selection of teachers, that they be not only devoted followers of Jesus Christ, but also such as are apt to teach, therefore we recommend that our Sunday schools follow the plan of the International Sunday-School Association, by which the church controls the Sunday school, electing *annually*, directly or indirectly, its teachers as well as all its officers.

3. We recommend the use of reminder cards sent by teacher or superintendent in case of absence of pupils.

4. We recommend that our Sunday schools take a collection for missions once a month, and that in the month of June this collection be on Children's Sunday.

5. We recommend that an occasional list of standard missionary works be printed in our denominational papers, which may be consulted in making additions to our Sunday school libraries.

6. In view of the many mothers and invalids whose interest is still in the Sunday school, but who are unable to attend, we recommend that a Home Department be established in every Sunday school where it is practicable.

7. We recommend that our superintendents supply themselves with the *Sunday School Times* in order to keep in touch with modern Sunday school methods.

G. A. GORDON,
HARRIET A. DEERING,
LIBBIE C. GRIFFIN,
J. DAVIS HUBBARD,
} *Committee.*

Anthony of Maine presented a resolution relating to our publications which was referred to the committee on publications.

The committee on foreign missions presented item nine of their original report, relating to an African mission, which had been recommitted by vote of Conference.

On motion of Anthony of Maine, this additional report was received as a substitute for his resolution on the table which had been assigned to this hour. The report was then considered item by item, as follows:

THE AFRICAN MISSION

Whereas, the Rev. Lewis P. Clinton, a native of Africa, educated in this country at Storer and Bates Colleges, has, by approval of our Conference Board, been for two years in his native land preparing the way for missionary work, and

Whereas, he now reports that near the borders of the Republic of Liberia he has received the gift of two hundred acres of land, whereon the erection of buildings for his work has already been begun; and

Whereas, he now makes application for funds with which to prosecute his work; therefore

Resolved, (1) That we regard these facts as providential indications that the time has fully come for the Free Baptist denomination to undertake the great work of establishing missionary operations on the Continent of Africa. (2) That for the purpose of facilitating this work we instruct the Conference Board to select and send to Africa, for so long a period as circumstances may demand, some judicious person to counsel with and assist Mr. Clinton in this important work. (3) That the Conference Board be further instructed to make such appropriations of money for this new work as its requirements may demand, the same not to exceed the amount received for the African mission. (4) That the Free Baptist young people of Maine, having generously signified their readiness to undertake the support of Mr. Clinton, be urged to

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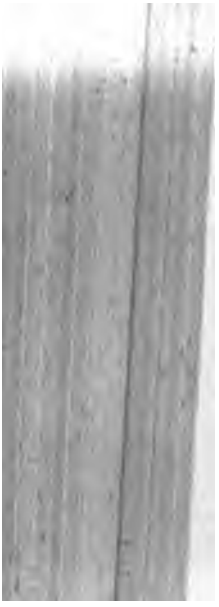
Mrs. Griffin of New York, mission correspondent under direction of Conference Board, presented a report which, on motion of Hopkins of Michigan, was accepted with thanks and referred to a special committee, appointed by the chair, consisting of Anthony of Maine, Myers of Michigan, Miss DeMeritte of New Hampshire, and Space of New York. The report was as follows:

REPORT OF MISSION CORRESPONDENT

Three years ago it was urged on the Conference floor by the foreign mission committee that the needs of our foreign mission work demanded that the time of one man be devoted to its interests. The General Conference voted that instead of employing a secretary for that work our returned missionaries be employed to work for India here and there in the denomination as there was demand, and as they could go.

That discussion, and the feeling that there was need of a more personal touch in writing—especially with those parts of our denomination where almost nothing is being done for missions—than our hard-working, true corresponding secretary and treasurer could possibly give, led, perhaps, to my appointment by the Conference Board to do some part of this writing and traveling, as circumstances permitted, at a salary of $100 a year.

That Conference Board instructed me to give my time especially to the forming of mission committees in the churches and in the Quarterly Meetings, and to urging the observance of the mission days. They, through a special committee, made the paying of the principal of Storer College the home mission work for the children of our denomination, and asked me to push the work of getting shares sufficient to pay his salary taken by the Sunday schools and the junior societies of our churches.



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missions. From that time till now mission topics for each year have been put in our papers, the topics and articles have been made to conform to the subject of the special mission day for that quarter, and three or four different articles a month for each paper on each topic solicited and usually sent. Thus the topics and articles for this quarter are on education; for the next quarter on foreign missions, etc.

I asked for a standing committee from the Conference Board with whom I could consult in regard to this and other branches of the work, and that committee is Brethren Patch, Given, and Ford. The topics are submitted to them, and some of them have been suggested by them. They, too, have been consulted in regard to the other departments of the work,—Brother Patch, especially, as he seemed not so overwhelmed with the work already; and, if my hair were not as gray as his own, I should say he has been to me like a father. I have taken to him the encouragements and failures, and his sound judgment and kindly criticism have been to me a tower of strength.

It has taken more time and more thought and strength than I realized to get good articles each week on these topics in both papers, and to have the articles different in the two papers, and during the last year since so much other mission matter has been secured for our papers I have been getting three topic articles a month instead of four, thinking with the increased amount of other mission matter that this is better. Permit me here and now to thank the men and women here who have in spite of their own pressing work written at my request such valuable mission articles for our papers. Besides the articles on the mission topics, I have tried to keep the latest news of our work here and in India in our papers. Also many letters from our missionaries, and other items and articles in the young people's and other departments of the papers have been presented at my suggestion. Many of these had nothing in the papers to show that my thought was behind them.

For *The Religious Intelligencer*, the organ of the Free Baptists in New Brunswick, I have also written a few articles, and have been in correspondence with its editor and others in regard to keeping the mission work before the people in that paper.

Some of you who read *The Messenger*, the organ of the General Baptists, who are trying to support our Mr. Ager, may have noticed that within the last six months a mission department has been begun in that paper.

Three years ago, when I first began my work as mission correspondent, I wrote to the editor of that paper of my work and my desire to help them to increase foreign mission interest in their churches that they might rise to the full support of their missionary I asked that the editor speak of it often, in his paper, that I might write for this paper sometimes, and I asked, too, for a list of the names and addresses of leading men and women in his denomination to whom I might write and thus help through them to push their mission work. He replied most cordially, sent the list, and urged my doing all I could through the paper and otherwise. This I have done through the three years, and when this Conference received the other day that fraternal letter from the General Baptists which said that there was a marked growth in foreign mission interest in their denomination tears came to my eyes and a glad prayer of thankfulness went up from my heart that I had been permitted to be one of the factors to help bring about this blessed result. It has been through me that Mrs. T. H. Drake, who is so well fitted for the place, has been appointed to have charge of the mission department in that paper. The department appears once or twice a month, and she takes it in her already-burdened hands with my promise to her request that I will help her when I can. Mrs. Drake is a strong woman, and will greatly help the work and the paper.

Our Journal, the monthly Keuka College and Central Association paper, is now edited by me. I need not tell you that something of missions gets into that. This much for the work in the papers.

Just here let me say that I have understood that my work was for our mission work in all its phases, and not for foreign mission work alone. But were my one object the India that I love, I must work for her through home missions and education as well, for these furnish the principal on which foreign mission funds are to be the interest, and we are learning all too keenly that a small principal invested yields but a scanty interest.

I was asked to work through the children for the support of the principal of Storer College. It took much work through the papers and by correspondence to start that work the first year. A circular letter was sent to every Sunday school in the denomination, and very many letters written. I was told if we got $100 pledged the first year we did well. We got more than that and the amount has slowly increased until now 106 shares are taken, and $424 of the $800 needed is given. But I find that some of that money in the sending is not reported for the children's principal. Let me here urge that church and Yearly Meeting treasurers to be true to the wish of the children, and take the trouble when they send the money on to Mr. Given to say for what object it is given.

For Mrs. Ager, the Central Association children's missionary, 57 shares have been paid, making a little more than half of her salary. But more than this has been done for both of these objects, Some schools give for them a quarterly or a monthly collection, which is so reported to me, and which I assure the givers is the best possible thing to do. But we can make no attempt to count this as a definite number of shares. For Mrs. Murphy, another children's missionary, no attempt is made to get specific shares taken, but rather to get regular collections from Sunday schools and juniors, and regular offerings on Children's Day.

I have, too, been able to get several native preachers and other workers, and some orphans, taken by individuals or organizations as special work, where this has materially increased the gifts.

Thirty-six different mission leaflets have been published. Dr. Given asked that I get out some. Others of the board urged it. Miss Ruth Brockett sent to Mr. Freeman, urging that material for one mission meeting on each of our India stations be issued, and she would pay for the material for one station. Mr. Freeman sent her letter to me with the request that I attend to it, which I did in consultation with her, and she largely paid the bills. It is here—The Mission Evening on Balasore—and is sold (the ten leaflets on that work) for five cents. The "Evening" still lacks a short sketch of a part of the Balasore missionaries, but I now have most of the material for that. We are waiting in some instances for cuts. Work

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tions to such till I could do it no longer, and printed a few to save my eyes and time. Many churches, as in Wisconsin, New York, Ohio, etc., already had such societies, and very many more had no organized way for doing church mission work. I have urged in these last the appointing of committees, and have known of very many being appointed in response to my appeals.

This year I have given special attention to the organization of Q. M. mission committees, and have sent a printed letter to all Q. M. clerks and a written letter beside to many, and a written letter to all Y. M. clerks. These have been answered—many of them—and promises have come to carry out the wish so strongly expressed at our last General Conference that a mission meeting for General Conference work be held at each Q. M. and Y. M. session, and that one or more collections for missions be taken at each of these sessions.

The other branch of my work has been visiting churches as I could. (Just here let me pause to say that at the end of the first year of my work it was found to have taken so much of my time that I was given $200 a year instead of $100.)

I have in the three years averaged about three months and a half each year in the field. My work for a small part of that time—as in my last trip in New England—has been in part for Keuka College. Most of it has been for this work. I have always taken with me denominational books and sold them, especially Year Books, Treatises, and mission books. I have everywhere worked for our papers and for our own publications in our Sunday schools. I have believed this a legitimate and very essential part of my work. For the expense of this traveling in the three years I have asked only $15.

And what shall I say about the traveling among the churches? Letters came pouring in upon me until, had I been three people, I could have been in the field all of the time, and in sheer self-defense I stopped in the main putting any mention in the papers of the trips I did take, thinking that would lessen the invitations. I have usually gone out for a trip covering two or three Sundays and the time between. Have spoken from two to five times on the

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Wynn of Ohio presented a resolution relating to the establishment of city missions, which was referred to the committee on home missions.

Report of a special committee appointed by Conference Board on the Manning Bible School was presented by Gordon of Illinois, and on motion of Graif of Michigan was accepted with thanks. The report was as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE MANNING BIBLE SCHOOL

Your committee appointed by the General Conference Board, at their annual meeting two years ago, to consider the advisability of establishing a Bible school in the Mississippi Valley, for the preparation and education of colored men for the ministry, and if found expedient and advisable to take necessary steps for the establishment of such a school, the location and grade of such school to be left with the committee, would submit this report.

After careful personal investigation and examination of the grounds we decided to locate it at Cairo, Ill. Rev. H. M. Ford was asked by the board to raise the money for the enterprise, and $1,500 was put at the disposal of your committee by the board to try the experiment for one year.

Not being able to find a place that we could either buy or rent that would be suitable for the school, it was decided to open it on April 8, 1900, in the church of Rev. N. Ricks in Cairo, Ill., in connection with the colored ministers' institute of the Mississippi Valley, an institute ordered by your honorable body six years ago, and placed in the hands of Revs. H. M. Ford and G. A. Gordon, which has continued its annual sessions ever since. Rev. Mr. Ford applied himself assiduously to the raising of the necessary funds to start the school, in which effort he met with marked success.

That it should be specifically a Bible school was determined early in the undertaking, for the preparation of candidates for the ministry and for the benefit of ministers who felt their need of such an institution, and who were willing to avail themselves of the advantages.

The next thing was a competent teacher for the school, and after much prayer and research we found such in the person of Prof. J. M. Arter, who after one and a half year's trial we believe is the right man, under God, for this work. An agent for the school was the next need, and we selected the indomitable Rev. N. Ricks to that position, and we are glad to report to your body that this choice was, we think, a wise selection. He has done good work for the school in the collection of much needed funds, and in procuring scholars for the school; also in giving us the use of his church house for the first term of the school.

Your committee then procured free text-books for the use of the school, and asked for donations of books from individuals to provide a library, which request met with a hearty response from a large number of friends to the enterprise. Among these donations we will mention the gift of the lamented Bro. Brewster by his wife, which has been held for a long time waiting until God should raise up such a school in the Mississippi Valley, of which gift your committee never knew until corresponded with upon the subject, together with many others. This now makes a library of more than one thousand volumes. Since this a brother on this floor has kindly agreed to ship us the thirty-volume edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica, with other books.

Another good brother has been moved of God to pay the entire salary of our principal, Prof. Arter, and he has the profoundest thanks of this committee, and, I assume to say, of this General Conference—and, may I add, of the denomination? And better still he has not confined it to one year, nor to two.

During last summer your committee purchased a piece of property, handsomely and centrally located, near the custom house, electric cars passing the door, water and electric lights, corner property, two lots. It is a two-story brick dwelling, with nine

rooms, two large halls, and front and back stairs. Cost, $2,200; paid $1,000 cash, and gave note and mortgage for balance of $1,200, which mortgage we lifted last month, and the property is ours, clear of any debt, and deeded to the Free Baptist General Conference.

In September, about one year ago now, the school was opened in this building. The upper part of this building we rent to Professor Arter for a dwelling for his family; the lower part we use for the school. Of the four rooms below, the back one is used in part for a bath or washroom, the next is used as library and reading-room, and the two front rooms, which open into one, are seated and used for study and recitation.

Students are furnished with the use of free text-books and the free use of library, and their only expense is $1 per term for incidentals, and, of course, their board.

To buy, furnish, seat, and fit up this property, the field secretary, Rev. H. M. Ford, has raised by pledges and cash about $2,400 or $2,500. The agent, Rev. N. Ricks, has raised $505 cash, and in subscriptions about $900.

There have been enrolled since the school was started last April, one year ago, twenty-eight scholars, some of whom have attended quite closely, others for shorter periods. This embraces four terms. We have issued some little printed matter in the way of circulars to advertise the school, and the committee added to their number the names of Professor Arter and Agent Ricks, and have constituted ourselves a prudential committee.

The fall term begins shortly after the return of Professor Arter from this Conference. We would like to thank the many donors for the boxes of books we have received, a number of boxes of which we have not been able to open up as yet on account of shelf room. We wish to say in conclusion that we regard the experiment of the Manning Bible School as a success. Your committee have arranged to place Sister Arter in the school this year, as a teacher of the English branches; as we find it necessary for many students who are past school age in the public school to be taught in these branches, hence this addition to the faculty.

We have a beautiful property, worth about $2,500, and we think the school fully appreciated by the colored people.

H. M. FORD,
J. W. FULTON,
G. A. GORDON,
J. M. ARTER,
N. RICKS,
Committee.

On motion of Chamberlin of Ohio, voted to adjourn.

Prayer was offered by Searles of Ohio, after which adjournment was declared.

MONDAY AFTERNOON

Conference assembled in compliance with adjournment at 2 o'clock Monday afternoon, President Lord in the chair.

Prayer was offered by McColl of Michigan.

Roll was called and a quorum ascertained to be present.

The committee on young people's work presented a report which was considered item by item, and was adopted as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

Your committee respectfully submit the following report:

Resolved, (1) That this Conference appreciate and commend the work of the United Society of Free Baptist Young People, especially the aggressive spirit manifested in mission work. That we recommend that continued and increased attention be given, by our young, to missionary and devotional work in all our local societies.

solved, (2) That it is the sense of this Conference that the ing of an annual convention be dispensed with, and that con- ons be held in connection with, and as a part of, the General erence.

solved, (3) That the young people of Maine be encouraged to forth immediate and vigorous efforts to provide an adequate ort for the Rev. L. P. Clinton in his African work.

J. S. HARRINGTON,
BERTHA F. FILES,
JOHN W. HOUSE,
JOHN W. WYNN,
} *Committee.*

he committee on education presented a supple- itary report which was adopted as follows:

REPORT ON THE MOUNTAIN EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION

hereas our attention has been called to the very great need lucational facilities in the mountain regions of East Tennessee, inia, North Carolina, and the inability of the people themselves ovide these facilities; and considering the great possibilities of people if once educated, as shown by their loyalty during the War, their independence of character, and their receptiveness struction; therefore,

solved, That we, the undersigned, agree to enter into an nization under the name of the Mountain Educational Com- ion, which shall become a legal body, whose duties shall be to stigate the whole question of feasibility as to the need, location, means for establishing an industrial school in that region under stian influence. If found desirable and practicable and if a icial basis of at least $50,000 shall be guaranteed, this Commis- shall proceed to locate and organize the school, and as soon as easonably be done commit its management to a board of trustees isting of fifteen members named by this Commission, said ees to be divided into three equal classes holding office re-

spectively one, two, and three years. As the terms of these respective trustees shall expire their successors shall be elected for three years by the ballots of the remaining trustees from a list of ten persons nominated and presented by the Conference Board of the Free Baptist General Conference.

Resolved, That this Conference approve of the above proposed endeavor.

The committee on temperance presented a report, which was considered item by item and adopted as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE

Your committee on temperance would report as follows:

For sixty-nine years General Conference has taken strong ground in favor of temperance. In all that time there have been no backward steps. There has not been one word, or lack of a word, of which we need be ashamed. We would reiterate and reaffirm all that our predecessors have said, and we would advance our lines still further in the face of the enemy and adapt ourselves to the present phase of the great battle.

Although this General Conference and all other temperance forces have been fighting all these sixty-nine years, the war is not over. Never in the past has there been greater need of faithful, self-sacrificing courage and devotion than at the present time. The enemy has been driven from one defensive position to another, but he has not surrendered. He has entrenched himself in still stronger positions. If we are to be worthy successors of our fathers we must attack and carry these strongholds at any and every cost. We would, therefore, make the following declaration of our position at the present time, and we hereby proclaim to all others engaged with us in the war, to the world, and to the enemy, that we will never retreat, we will never change our position, except to advance, and we will be heard.

1. We believe that intemperance is the greatest evil in the world, and its suppression the most important moral and political question that can possibly engage our attention.

2. We believe that total abstinence from all that can intoxicate is the only safe position for the individual.

3. We believe that the sin, folly, and injurious effect of, not only drunkenness, but of moderate drinking, should be taught to the child in the home, the Sunday school, the young people's society, and the public school, and to the adult, from pulpit, platform, and press.

4. That the church in its practices, teachings, and all its influences should be an aggressive and efficient temperance society.

5. That the State should prohibit the liquor traffic for the same reason and in the same way it prohibits theft, gambling, prostitution, and other crimes.

6. That it is as impossible for any State to suppress the liquor traffic by license, high or low, as it would be to suppress any other crime by the same means.

7. That we rejoice that the Congress of the United States has this time so abolished the army canteen that no attorney-general on earth can restore it, and we would respectfully ask Congress to stand firmly against all the desperate efforts of the rum power for its restoration.

8. That the establishment of drinking houses in connection with the army, by the government, is as foolish, as wrong, as destructive, and as demoralizing as it would be for a railroad company or any other great corporation to establish them for their employees, the testimony of the rum power, the sensational daily press, and many army officers to the contrary notwithstanding.

9. That we respectfully petition the Congress of the United States to appoint a commission to investigate the effect of the liquor traffic upon the patriotism, the morality, the education, and the material prosperity of all the people.

10. That we hereby pledge ourselves to labor, pray, and vote for State and national prohibition of the manufacture, sale, importation, and exportation of all intoxicating liquors.

12. That the export
able to defend themsel
great hindrance to the
be prohibited by all civi

13. That we extend
to all temperance effor
Christian Temperance U
perance, and all other
motive, teach the injurio
of total abstinence and p

14. We also recogni
true, a powerful ally, and
and we hereby protest ag
ance lesson from the Nati

15. That we receive
Anti-Saloon League, and
delegates and ten alter
Conference, the sixth Nati
in the city of Washington
of December next. And als
tive in the National Boar
body composed of

17. That the use of opium and other narcotics is a dangerous habit, and should be carefully avoided.

B. C. JORDAN,
C. B. HART,
MRS. A. L. FREEMAN,
MARY E. JACKSON,
E. C. CLARK,
F. L. WILEY,
} *Committee.*

On motion of Patch of New Hampshire, it was voted to transmit item nine of the report of the committee on temperance to the national Congress, signed by the president and clerk of this Conference.

On motion, voted that the temperance committee nominate delegates to the National Anti-Saloon Convention to be held in the city of Washington next December.

The election of Conference Board being in order at this time, a ballot was taken, the following persons, appointed by the chair, acting as tellers: Metcalf of Rhode Island, Lawrence of Minnesota, Davis (E. E.) of Maine, Arter of Illinois, Howard of New Hampshire.

After receiving the ballot the tellers retired to canvass the same.

The committee on publications presented a report which was considered item by item and adopted as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATIONS

Resolved, That we reaffirm our confidence in our denominational papers, *The Morning Star*, *The Free Baptist*, *The Missionary Helper*.

Resolved, That we h
people the Morning Sta
ion of this Conference
plies in preference to a
denominational publica
mission leaflets publishe
Griffin, and the leaflets
also the following books
the Free Baptist Woma
Spiritual Life," "New
Dunn."

Resolved, That the ma
House and that of the W
and hereby are, requested
ing the *Morning Star* an

Resolved, That the pap
dent of the Board of Cor
House, concerning the re
Free Baptist denomination
ference.

Resolved, That the Morr
to furnish exercises for Chi

Resolved, That the corre

Since our brother, the late Rev. Dr. O. R. Bacheler, left a short autobiography of his life which should be preserved, also a small but excellent book on India, now out of stock,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to consider the feasibility of bringing the above-mentioned material into a book, together with such other information concerning his later life and work as should be preserved.

Whereas, the Morning Star Publishing House is the property of the denomination, and whereas it needs the hearty interest and support of all our people,

Resolved, That the corporators of the above-mentioned publishing house be requested to fill the vacancies occasioned by the expiration of a term of office—or otherwise—from a list of persons nominated by General Conference, or by Conference Board, General Conference to nominate the list at its triennial session, and Conference Board in the interim, the number of persons to be so nominated each year to be twice the number to be elected.

Resolved, That the corporators of the Morning Star Publishing House be requested to place upon their records their approval and indorsement of this action of General Conference.

Inasmuch as the records of the Morning Star Publishing House are not at hand, and without them it is impossible to nominate intelligently at this time the list from which the corporators of the Morning Star Publishing House are to be elected, the committee recommends that the Conference Board be authorized to make the nomination for the next election.

THOMAS H. STACY,
JOHN JAY HULL,
E. BURLINGAME CHENEY,
T. J. MAWHORTER,
W. R. WOOD,
} *Committee.*

On motion of Kennan of Minnesota, it was voted that Dr. Mary W. Bacheler and A. L. Freeman be a committee to prepare for publication the life of Dr. and Mrs. O. R. Bacheler.

Webb of Maine moved that when we adjourn it be to seven o'clock this evening at this place. It was so voted.

Prayer was offered by Mawhorter of Indiana.

Adjourned.

MONDAY EVENING

Conference assembled Monday evening, as per adjournment, President Lord in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Ramsdell of New York.

The report of the tellers appointed to receive and canvass the ballot for members of Conference Board was now presented as follows:

BALLOT FOR MEMBERS OF CONFERENCE BOARD

Whole number of votes,	89
Defective,	11
Votes to count,	78
Necessary for choice,	40

Mrs. L. M. P. Durgin, 72; Rev. R. D. Lord, D. D., 72; Rev. H. M. Ford, D. D., 71; Mrs. L. C. Griffin, 69; Mrs. S. C. G. Avery, 68; Mrs. E. B. Cheney, 66; Rev. Arthur Given, D. D., 64; Rev. O. D. Patch, 64; E. P. Metcalf, 60; L. M. Webb, 53; Rev. G. A. Gordon, 52; Rev. W. J. Fulton, 49; Mrs. Alice L. Hulce, 48; Miss Harriet A. Deering, 45; Rev. Z. A. Space, 44; Miss L. A. DeMeritte, 43; Rev. R. R. Kennan, 41; Rev. J. J. Hull, 40.

The foregoing persons, seven women and eleven men, were declared elected, leaving, according to the requirements of the constitution, three men still to be chosen.

On motion of Webb of Maine, it was voted that a committee be appointed by the chair to nominate six names from which to elect the three remaining members of the board. The chair appointed Ford of Michigan, Webb of Maine, and Hull of Wisconsin as that committee.

An informal ballot for treasurer of General Conference was now ordered, in which eighty votes were cast, sixty-eight of which were for Rev. Arthur Given, D. D., of Rhode Island.

A formal ballot was now taken, in which Rev. Arthur Given, D. D., of Rhode Island, was unanimously elected treasurer of General Conference.

A ballot was now held for auditor of General Conference, and Hon. E. P. Metcalf of Rhode Island was unanimously elected.

Subsequent to adjournment, Mr. Metcalf resigned as auditor of General Conference. His resignation was accepted by Conference Board, and Mr. James M. Paine of East Killingly, Conn., was elected to fill the vacancy.

A ballot was now taken for corresponding secretary of General Conference, and Rev. Arthur Given, D. D., of Rhode Island, was unanimously elected.

The committee to nominate additional names for members of Conference Board submitted a report. A ballot was held, and the tellers retired to canvass the same.

On motion of Webb of Maine, it was voted that, when we adjourn, it be to eight o'clock to morrow morning in this place.

We heartily approve t
and workers, whether un
Conference Board, of the
Young People's Society;
C. Griffin be referred t
properly is; and further
the several field agents of
so related in some compre
of action and efficiency
ble expense, may be secu
tions we recommend that
tion with the executive bo

ALFRI
LAUR
HARR
Z. A.

Webb of Maine,
amendments, gave not
the By-Laws, as follow

1. Nominations for the Conference Board shall be made from the floor, no speeches being allowed in making nominations.

2. The names of all persons nominated shall be printed in alphabetical order, in suitable form and sufficient number to be used as ballots, space being left for the insertion of additional names.

3. The ballot shall be for the twenty-one members of the board on one ballot, names of all for whom the member does *not* wish to vote being erased.

4. A ballot for more than twenty-one persons, or for less than seven women, shall not be counted.

L. M. WEBB,
E. O. DICKINSON,
N. C. BRACKETT,
EMELINE B. CHENEY,
LOU M. P. DURGIN,
} *Committee.*

The report of the tellers on the supplementary ballot for members of Conference Board was now received showing the election of G. F. Mosher of Massachusetts and H. S. Myers of Michigan, and these persons were declared elected.

Another ballot was now ordered for the remaining member of Conference Board, and T. J. Mawhorter of Indiana was elected, thus completing the election of members of Conference Board.

On motion of Graif of Michigan, voted to adjourn the business session.

The program of the evening was devoted to home mission topics, presided over by Vice-President Graif of Michigan. The speakers were Prof. J. M. Arter of Illinois, Prof. J. W. Lucas of Tennessee, and Rev. N. Ricks of Illinois.

MINUTES OF THE

TUESDAY MORNING

HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA., Sept. 10, 1901.

Pursuant to adjournment General Conference assembled at eight o'clock Tuesday morning, President Lord in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Mrs. Cheney of Rhode Island.

The roll was called and a quorum was ascertained to be present.

The records were read and approved.

On motion voted to excuse Baker of New York from further attendance on this Conference.

The committee on church polity presented a report, which was considered item by item, and adopted as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CHURCH POLITY

1. *Resolved*, That General Conference advise pastors and churches to keep in touch with non-resident members by letter and otherwise, giving them opportunity to contribute to the support of the church and to the benevolent causes.

2. Whereas so many irregularities obtain in the use of church letters, thereby losing to the church many valuable members who might be saved to our Zion, your committee recommend that General Conference advise that, as a *general rule*, church letters be not handed to the individuals requesting them, but be sent direct to the church with which applicant signifies a desire to unite, and in cases where no church can be signified, it is better to withhold the letter till such church can be designated.

3. Respecting the administration of the Lord's Supper, your committee advise that no new rule be made, but that special attention be called to the action of General Conference of 1837, page 97 of Digest of Laws.

o the question, "If a church receive an unimmersed per-
hurch membership, can such person afterward be expelled
sing to be baptized?" your committee would answer, No,
ld call attention to paragraph 2 of Section V, page 44, of
also to page 91 and 92 of Digest of Laws and to all other
:es on the subject of baptism. We would also call attention
act that pastors or clerks cannot drop names from the list
bers.

Whereas experience proves the wisdom of dividing the de-
:ion into defined districts with superintendents devoted to
fare of the churches and work in them, therefore,

ved, That the Conference Board be advised to recognize
ction of such superintendents as the Yearly Meetings and
ions in such districts have elected; superintendents to be
l to report their work respectively to both the Conference
and the bodies which elected them, according to prescribed

Your committee recommend the adoption of this resolution.

M. C. MINER,
J. ERSKINE,
R. W. CHAMBERLIN,
J. D. MCCOLL,
J. B. COY,
} *Committee.*

urges derogatory to the character of Rev. N. C.
ett, Ph. D., of Harper's Ferry, having been circu-
by one individual, Mr. Brackett obtained permis-
:o make a statement respecting the same. On
n of Mosher of Michigan, Conference unanimously
ised by rising vote confidence in Rev. N. C. Brack-
Christian character and business integrity in the
gement of the affairs of Storer College.

committee on denomination presented a report
was considered item by item and adopted as fol-

parts, and with uplifted
cometh our help," and
any command that our
and to engage in any s

In obedience to the
terly Meeting to that pa
ing that is loyal to the
the Quarterly Meeting
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Meeting constitution as
action to the different Q

The Quarterly Meetin
expected to become a pa

The newly organized
sisting of the Little Scioto
this General Conference o

It also requests that th
with date of reorganizatio

The committee recomm

Whereas Rev. R. R. Th
from time to time gone ou
gelist, and whereas his wor

its secretary to present to General Conference such a synopsis records as will cover all important transactions made by the , and the results of the same.

Z. A. SPACE,
T. O. COMSTOCK,
W. G. HALL,
S. C. G. AVERY,
L. R. SPRAGUE,
} *Committee.*

he committee on the ministry presented a report h was considered item by item and adopted as fol- :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE MINISTRY

e committee on the ministry respectfully recommends:

That qualification for the Christian ministry in the Free Bap- enomination be deemed a vital Christian experience, a suitable ition in theology and allied branches, and a proper ordination.

That ordination shall be given at the hands of councils con- g of not less than three persons, each of whom is an ordained tian minister in the Free Baptist denomination, and this coun- all be appointed not by a church or a Quarterly Meeting but Yearly Meeting, a State Association, or a Ministers' Conference Yearly Meeting or State Association.

That an ordained clergyman coming from another denomi- n be received in the following manner: (1) He shall first a membership in a Free Baptist church. (2) The church may through its Quarterly Meeting or otherwise, request of its y Meeting, State Association, or Ministers' Conference of the y Meeting or State Association, the appointment of a council he examination of the candidate. (3) This council, consti- as in the case of ordination, shall then examine the candidate (*a*) character and reputation, (*b*) Christian and ministerial ex-

perience, and (c) doctrinal views. If the examination prove satisfactory, he shall then, by suitable services, be publicly recognized as a Free Baptist minister, but need not be reordained.

4. That ministers' conferences be counseled to maintain a strict and fraternal oversight of their membership, in the spirit of love and charity, to preserve the purity of the ministry.

5. That an annual collection be taken in every church for the ministers' relief fund.

6. That our ministers, especially those who are not graduates of a theological school, be urged to pursue courses in the Correspondence School.

7. That General Conference approve the Ministers' Institutes held by our educational institutions in Lewiston, Me., Hillsdale, Mich., Cairo, Ill., and in connection with some of our Yearly Meetings and State Associations, and urge attendance of our clergy, as far as possible, upon them.

8. Respecting licenses to preach, that the following action of previous years be restated and re-enforced: A minister under license and not yet ordained is not to administer the ordinance of baptism and the Lord's Supper. Licenses shall be of three grades, primary, junior, and senior. Primary license may be granted to any one qualified, in character and utterance, to preach the gospel, but is valid for only one year and can be renewed but once. By study, the candidate must prepare himself for the next grade or cease to be licensed.

Junior license may be granted to any one who, qualified in character and utterance to preach, has also passed a satisfactory examination in the studies assigned in the Conference course, for the first year, and license of this grade shall be renewed but once.

Senior license may be granted to any one who, qualified in other respects, has also passed a satisfactory examination in the studies assigned in the Conference course of the second year. This license may be repeated as many times as the local committee on license may deem proper, but a license to preach should never be issued by one act for a longer period than one year.

9. That F. L. Wiley of New Hampshire, G. H. Ball of New York, and G. F. Mosher of Massachusetts be made the committee on ministerial record for three years.

ALFRED WILLIAMS ANTHONY,
J. C. STEELE,
J. M. ARTER,
WILLIS M. DAVIS,
Z. B. DALLY,
} *Committee.*

Stacy of Maine presented a resolution which was adopted as follows:

Resolved, That the report of the committee on the ministry be printed in *The Morning Star* and *Free Baptist*, as well as in the minutes, with the request that the report be read in all Free Baptist Quarterly Meetings and Associations.

The committee on temperance presented a report nominating a representative and delegates to the Convention of the National Anti Saloon League, to be held at Washington, D. C., Dec. 3–5, 1901, as follows:

REPRESENTATION IN THE NATIONAL ANTI-SALOON LEAGUE

Representative:

Rev. R. D. Lord, D. D., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Delegates:

Rev. Geo. H. Ball, D. D., Keuka Park, N. Y.; Rev. F. L. Wiley, Laconia, N. H.; President Geo. C. Chase, D. D., LL. D., Lewiston, Me.; Rev. H. M. Ford, D. D., Hillsdale, Mich.; Rev. N. C. Brackett, Ph. D, Harper's Ferry, W. Va.; Hon. E. P. Metcalf, Providence, R. I.; Rev. C. B. Hart, East Hamlin, N. Y.; Rev. Z. A. Space, Keuka Park, N. Y.; Rev. N. A. Avery, Wells Branch, Me.; Prof. J. W. Lucas, Midway, Tenn.

Alternates:

Rev. G. A. Gordon, Campbell Hill, Ill.; Prof. H. T. McDonald, Harper's Ferry, W. Va.; Mr. Harry S. Myers, Hillsdale, Mich.; Rev. A. E. Wilson, Lowell, Mass.; Rev. Arthur Given, D. D., Auburn, R. I.; Mrs. E. B. Cheney, Pawtucket, R. I.; Mrs. L. C. Griffin, Keuka Park, N. Y.; Rev. E. O. Dickinson, D. D., Hillsboro, Iowa; Rev. J. W. Jenkins, Berryville, Va.; Rev. W. J. Fulton, Rio Grande, Ohio.

On motion of Webb of Maine, it was voted that, when we adjourn, it be to two o'clock this afternoon at this place.

On motion of Webb of Maine, in behalf of the committee on amendments, the following proposed amendment to the Constitution was referred to the Conference Board:

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

I hereby propose the following amendment to the Constitution, to be acted upon at the next General Conference.

Amend Article 6 of the Constitution by adding in the sixth line, after the word "treasurer," the words—"corresponding secretary."

Webb of Maine presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

RESOLUTION RESPECTING CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY

Resolved, That the president and treasurer be, and they are, hereby authorized and instructed to duly execute, in the name of the General Conference, a quit claim deed of any church or other property which may be hereafter deeded to the General Conference

by any church, parish, corporation, or individual, to such persons or parties as may be desired by the party so dee ling said prop rty to General Conference, said quit claim deed to contain certain covenants, reservations, and stipulations by which the said property shall be assured to be used continuously for church purposes by a religious body duly connected with the General Conference of Free Baptists, and that upon violation of said covenants, reservations, and stipulations, said property shall revert to said General Conference.

On motion of Mrs. Cheney of Rhode Island a service of prayer for the President and his wife was held, agreeable to a suggestion of the mayor of Baltimore. Prayers were offered by Rev. Dr. C. C. Creegan, Rev. Dr. R. D. Lord, and Rev. Dr. Geo. H. Ball.

On motion of Graif of Michigan, it was voted to adjourn. Prayer was offered by Erskine of New H mpshire.

Adjourned.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON

Conference assembled at two o'clock Tuesday afternoon, agreeably to adjournment, President Lord in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Tobey of Maine.

Roll was called and a quorum was found to be present.

McColl of Michigan was excused by vote from further attendance on this session of Conference.

The committee on finance presented a report which was received and adopted as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

We recommend that General Conference, through its corresponding secretary, express sincere gratitude to Rev. Joseph Taylor for his gift to the denomination of three hundred acres of land in New Jersey, and assure him that the gift shall be used to the best of our judgment in promoting denominational interests and the extension of Christ's Kingdom.

We recommend that the treasurer be authorized to pay the clerk of this Conference the usual amount of fifty dollars and expenses, and the usual compensation for assistant.

Resolved, That the General Conference urge upon all our ministers the great importance of making regular use of the card system of collections for missions and educational purposes, and that the Quarterly Meetings and Associations use their utmost endeavor to secure from each minister a clear statement in writing of what efforts he has made in the above directions and the special methods used in doing so.

Resolved, That a copy of the minutes of this session of Conference be sent to each pastor in the denomination, the expense of the same to be borne by General Conference treasury, and that each pastor be urged to familiarize his people with the doings of this body.

A. L. FREEMAN,
T. J. WINSLADE,
E. E. DAVIS,
N. J. SHIREY,
A. J. PENDLEMAN,
} *Committee.*

On motion of Hopkins of Michigan, it was voted that the time and place of holding the next session of General Conference be referred to the Conference Board.

Webb of Maine presented a resolution relating to the finance committee of General Conference, which was adopted as follows:

LOCATION OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

Whereas, it is essential that the finance committee be persons residing near the treasurer in order that he can consult them in reference to making and managing investments,

Resolved, That the finance committee appointed at this session be excused from further service in order that the president may appoint a new committee residing near the treasurer, and that said new committee consist of three members.

Pursuant to this resolution the president appointed the following persons as finance committee:

FINANCE COMMITTEE

H. R. Farnum of Rhode Island, E. P. Metcalf of Rhode Island, D. D. Waterman of Rhode Island.

Webb of Maine presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

PREVIOUS ACTS RATIFIED

All the acts and doings of this General Conference of Free Baptists to the present date are hereby adopted, ratified, and made legal.

Also all the acts of the Conference Board of said Conference are hereby adopted as a part of the doings of said Conference, and are hereby ratified and confirmed.

A report was presented from a joint committee appointed at the session of General Conference in 1898, and was adopted as follows:

Resolved, That this joint committee be instructed to meet annually in conjunction with Conference Board, to receive and consider any question that may properly come before this committee, and request a copy of this action be sent to the Woman's Missionary Society for its ratification.

RIVINGTON D. LORD,
H. M. FORD,
S. C. G. AVERY,
} *Committee.*

On motion of Mrs. Cheney of Rhode Island, it was voted that a committee consisting of Miss Deering of Maine, and some member of Conference Board, to be appointed by Conference Board, prepare a list of books and leaflets on missionary topics, suitable for Sunday-school use.

The committee on nomination presented the following names to constitute representatives of General Conference on the joint committee of conference and consultation with the Woman's Missionary Society: Lord of New York, Ford of Michigan, and Patch of New Hampshire.

[Since the adjournment of Conference the clerk has been notified that the Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society, at their meeting held at Concord, N. H., appointed the following persons to represent them on this joint committee: Mrs. Lou M. P. Durgin, Mrs. Mary A. Davis, and Miss L. A. DeMeritte.]

At this point the topic on the program, "Consideration of Our System of Raising Benevolent Funds," was taken up and discussed by the following persons: Given

of Rhode Island, Mrs. Cheney of Rhode Island, Miss DeMeritte of New Hampshire, Anthony of Maine, Jordan (B. C.) of Maine, Ricker of New Hampshire, Chamberlin of Ohio, Ford of Michigan, Hull of Wisconsin, Myers of Michigan, Graif of Michigan, Mrs. Griffin of New York, and Mrs. Avery of New Hampshire.

Rev. Z. A. Space of New York delivered an address on "The Advantages of Supervision in State Work."

On motion of Hopkins of Michigan, it was voted that Mr. Space be requested to have the address just given published in *The Free Baptist* and *The Morning Star*.

Dr. Mary W. Bacheler at this time gave an address on our denominational work in India.

On motion of Webb of Maine, it was voted that, when we adjourn, it be to seven o'clock this evening at the church.

The committee on closing resolutions presented a report which was adopted as follows by rising vote:

CLOSING RESOLUTIONS

Whereas, the thirty-first session of the General Conference of Free Baptists has enjoyed many courtesies and kindnesses, therefore,

Resolved, That we hereby express our hearty thanks to the management of Storer College, for its cordial invitation to convene at Harper's Ferry, and its excellent provision made for our business sessions as well as for our entertainment; further, that we express also to the following our sincere appreciation of special favors, viz., to the Trunk Line, the Central Association, the New England Passenger Association, for liberal concessions in point of railway fares;

to Hon E. P. Metcalf for valuable transportion arrangements; to the program committee for its splendid work; to Rev. R. D. Lord, D. D., our president, for his uniform courtesy and fair and masterly rulings, and quick despatch of business, and to our secretaries for their accuracy of record and prompt replies to inquiries; to Rev. R. R. Thompson and the college church choir for their fine musical renditions at the Sunday and the evening services; to A. L. Freeman for the large and varied display of the Free Baptist publications in the basement of the church; to Mr. H. S. Myers for arranging the valuable exhibit of articles of denominational interest; and, in short, to all those who have in any wise contributed to the pleasure and profit of the General Conference.

Resolved, That we hereby express our thanks to Almighty God: first, for the exceptionally beautiful weather it has been the privilege of Conference to enjoy; secondly, for the fact that the telegraphic reply to our Conference has been so favorable as touching the condition of President McKinley; thirdly, for the general enthusiasm and harmony that have pervaded the sessions of Conference from beginning to end; and finally, for the new and enlarging enterprises in missions and education for which the present Conference has been so clearly signalized.

Respectfully submitted,

PHILIP GRAIF,
A. C. KEITH,
L. F. SHERRITT,
NELSON RAMSDELL,
} *Committee.*

Closing remarks were made by President Lord and by Rev. George H. Ball, D. D., of New York.

On motion of Graif of Michigan, seconded by Shirey of New York, Conference voted to adjourn.

Prayer was offered by Dr. Ball.

After adjournment each member of Conference had an opportunity of extending a parting greeting to President Lord and Rev. Dr. Ball.

TUESDAY EVENING

Conference assembled at the church pursuant to adjournment, President Lord in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Wilson of Massachusetts.

The records were read and approved.

The evening was occupied by an address delivered by Rev. C. C. Creegan, D. D., of New York, secretary of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, upon foreign missions.

The closing prayer was offered by President Lord, after which the motion to adjourn was put and carried, and President Lord declared the Thirty-First General Conference of Free Baptists adjourned.

N. S PURINTON, *Clerk.*
E. P. METCALF, *Assistant Clerk.*
HELEN DUNN GATES, *Assistant Clerk.*

APPENDIX

CHARTER

State of Maine

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

AN ACT to incorporate the General Conference of Free Baptists

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:

SECTION 1. Oren B. Cheney, George H. Ball, Laura A. DeMeritte, Clarence A. Bickford, Nathan C. Brackett, Emeline S. Burlingame, Amanda M. Pendleton, Ethnan W. Porter, Orin D. Patch, George F. Mosher, John T. Ward, Richard M. Lawrence, Lewis W. Anthony, Ellen A. Copp, Alpheus W. Gates, Rufus Deering, Elizabeth Colley, Arthur Given, J. Burnham Davis, Cyrus H. Latham, DeWitt C. Durgin, Eliza M. Jackson, George A. Gordon, Henry J. Brown, Emily L. Marshall, Oscar E. Baker, Charles S. Perkins, their associates and successors, are hereby constituted a corporation for religious, missionary, educational, and charitable purposes, under the name of the General Conference of Free Baptists, and by that name shall have power to prosecute and defend suits at law, to use a common seal and to change the same at pleasure, to take and hold for the objects of said corporation, by gift, grant, bequest, purchase, or otherwise, any estate, real or personal or both, the annual income of which shall not exceed one

deem expedient for the
time; and they shall be
powers, privileges, righ
porations.

SEC. 3. The person
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members thereof only un
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this act; and from and
shall be thus organized t
as may be chosen deleg
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persons as the said Con
which they may from tim

SEC. 4. The said Ge
be called the Conference
bers as the Conference
may be delegated to act f
one meeting of the Confe

SEC. 5. The said Ge
meetings for the choice of
part of the United State
meetings in any foreign co

sion Society," approved February nineteen, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, and amended again by an act entitled "An Act to Amend the Charter of the Freewill Baptist Foreign Mission Society," approved January twenty-six, eighteen hundred and eighty-three, are hereby authorized and empowered to transfer and deliver to the said General Conference of Free Baptists all their real and personal property and estate, and all their powers, privileges, rights, and immunities, to be held and used by the said Conference for the purposes mentioned in this act; and upon such transfer and delivery, all the powers, privileges, rights, and immunities of the said society shall be vested in the said General Conference of Free Baptists.

SEC. 7. The Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society, incorporated by an act approved January twenty-six, eighteen hundred and eighty-three, are hereby authorized and empowered to transfer and deliver to the said General Conference of Free Baptists all their real and personal property and estate, and all their powers, privileges, rights, and immunities, to be held and used by the said Conference for the purposes mentioned in this act, and upon such transfer and delivery all the powers, privileges, rights, and immunities of the said society shall be vested in the said Conference.

SEC. 8. The said General Conference shall have the right to hold and use for the purposes mentioned in this act all the real and personal property and estate, and shall be entitled to all the powers, privileges, rights, and immunities of the Freewill Baptist Home Mission Society, a corporation existing under the laws of the State of New Hampshire by an act approved June twenty-eight, eighteen hundred and thirty-eight, and amended by an act approved June twenty-seven, eighteen hundred and fifty-nine, and amended again by an act approved July five, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven, whenever the said society, being duly authorized by the said State of New Hampshire, shall transfer and deliver the same.

SEC. 9. The said General Conference shall have the right to hold and use for the purposes mentioned in this act all the real and personal property and estate, and shall be entitled to all the powers, privileges, rights, and immunities of the Freewill Baptist Education

Society, a corporation existing under the laws of the State of New Hampshire, by an act approved July seven, eighteen hundred and forty-six, and amended by an act approved June twenty-nine, eighteen hundred and seventy, entitled "An Act in Amendment of An Act to Incorporate the Freewill Baptist Education Society," whenever the said society, being duly authorized by the said State of New Hampshire, shall transfer and deliver the same.

SEC. 10. All property held by the said societies, and all gifts, bequests, devises, and conveyances of property heretofore made to said societies, or which may hereafter be made to them or any of them, shall be held and used by the said Conference for the purpose designated in the making of the several gifts, bequests, devises, and conveyances, and shall be subject to all the conditions, limitations, and uses contained in the several gifts, bequests, devises, and conveyances to said societies.

SEC. 11. Whenever the said societies or any one of them shall transfer their property to the said Conference, the said Conference shall have the right to hold and use for the purposes mentioned in this act the property that may be thus transferred in addition to the sum of personal and real estate authorized to be held in Section 1 of this act.

SEC. 12. If at the time of the transfer and delivery of the real and personal property and estate of the said societies or of any one of them to the said General Conference of Free Baptists, or at any other time, the said societies or any one of them hold any property, gifts, bequests, or devises which are not transferable, said societies or any one of them shall continue to hold and use the property thus held for the purpose designated in making of the gifts, bequests, devises, or conveyances of property thus held.

SEC. 13. It shall not be necessary for more than nine persons mentioned in the first section of this act as corporators to constitute a quorum for the acceptance of this act, and the said Conference shall have the right to fix the number to constitute their quorum from time to time, and also to fix the number to constitute the quorum of their Conference Board.

SEC. 14. Oren B. Cheney, George H. Ball, Laura A. DeMerritte, Clarence A. Bickford, and Nathan C. Brackett, or any five persons mentioned in the first section of this act, may call the first meeting of this corporation by giving notice of the time and place in some paper published in this State at least fourteen days before the time of holding said meeting.

SEC. 15. This act shall take effect when approved.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Jan. 19, 1891.

This bill, having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

BENJAMIN F. CHADBOURNE, *Speaker pro tem.*

IN SENATE, Jan. 19, 1891.

This bill, having had two several readings, passed to be enacted.

CHARLES F. LIBBY, *President.*

Approved Jan. 19, 1891.

EDWIN C. BURLEIGH, *Governor.*

STATE OF MAINE,
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE.

I hereby certify that the paper to which this is attached is a true copy of the original deposited in this office.

In testimony whereof I have caused the seal of the State to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at Augusta, this twentieth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one, and in the one hundred and fifteenth year of the independence of the United States of America.

S. J. CHADBOURNE, *Deputy Secretary of State.*

SEAL

State of New Hampshire

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

AN ACT authorising the Freewill Baptist Home Mission Society and the Freewill Baptist Education Society to transfer their property and rights to the General Conference of Free Baptists.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

SECTION 1. The Freewill Baptist Home Mission Society, a corporation created by the laws of this State by an act approved June twenty-eight, eighteen hundred and thirty-eight, and the Freewill Baptist Education Society, a corporation created by the laws of this State by an act approved July seven, eighteen hundred and forty-six, are hereby authorized and empowered to transfer and deliver to the General Conference of Free Baptists, a corporation created by the legislature of the State of Maine by an act approved January nineteen, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, all their real and personal property and estate, and all their powers, privileges, and rights to be held and used by said General Conference of Free Baptists, for religious, missionary, educational, and charitable purposes.

SEC. 2. All property held by said Freewill Baptist Home Mission Society and said Freewill Baptist Education Society, and all gifts, bequests, devises, and conveyances of property heretofore made to said societies, or either of them, or which may hereafter be made to them, or either of them, shall be held and used by the said General Conference of Free Baptists for the purpose designated in the making of the several gifts, bequests, and conveyances, and shall be subject to all the conditions, limitations, and uses contained in the several gifts, bequests, devises, and conveyances to

said societies respectively, and upon such transfer and delivery the powers, privileges, and rights of said societies respectively shall be vested in said General Conference of Free Baptists.

SEC. 3. If at the time of the transfer and delivery of the real and personal property and estate of said societies to said General Conference of Free Baptists either of the said societies holds any property, gifts, bequests, or devises which are not transferable, said societies shall continue to hold and use the property thus held by them respectively for the purpose designated in the making of the gifts, bequests, devises, or conveyances of property thus held.

SEC. 4. This act shall take effect on its passage.

FRANK G. CLARK, *Speaker House of Reps.*

JOHN MCLANE, *President of Senate.*

Approved Feb. 18, 1891.

HIRAM A. TUTTLE, *Governor.*

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,
SECRETARY'S OFFICE, CONCORD, March 2, 1892.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original act as filed in this office.

In testimony whereof I hereunto subscribe my official signature and affix the seal of the State.

C. B. RANDLETT, *Deputy Secretary of State.*

{ SEAL }

CONSTITUTION

[This is the form as finally amended and adopted by the General Conference]

ARTICLE 1. The General Conference of Free Baptists shall be composed of delegates from the several bodies now composing the General Conference of the Freewill Baptist Connection in North America,* together with the delegates from such other bodies holding an evangelical faith, believing in the divinity of Christ, a general atonement, the necessity of regeneration, the immersion of be-

* The General Conference of the Freewill Baptist Connection in North America is composed of the following bodies: The New Hampshire Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Maine Free Baptist Association, the Vermont Yearly Meeting of Free Baptists, the Massachusetts Free Baptist Association, the Rhode Island Free Baptist Association, the Holland Purchase Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Genesee Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Susquehanna Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the St. Lawrence Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the New York Central Free Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Western Pennsylvania Free Baptist Association, the Ohio and Pennsylvania Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Central Ohio Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Ohio Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Ohio River Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Ohio and Kentucky Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the West Virginia Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Indiana Freewill Baptist Association, the Michigan Freewill Baptist Association, the Illinois Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Southern Illinois Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Central Illinois Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Wisconsin Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Minnesota Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Iowa Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Nebraska Yearly Meeting of Free Baptists, the Northern Nebraska Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Northern Kansas Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Southern Kansas Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Golden Gate Free Baptist Association, the Virginia and West Virginia Free Baptist Association, the Kentucky Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Louisiana Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Ontario Free Baptist Association, the Bengal and Orissa Free Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Western Missouri Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Northwestern Missouri Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the South Carolina Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Mississippi Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Prosperity Free Baptist Association, the Denton Creek Freewill Baptist Association, the Mount Moriah Freewill Baptist Association, the North Missouri Freewill Baptist Association, the Pleasant Hill Freewill Baptist Association, the Union Baptist Association, the Nebraska Central Yearly Meeting, Eastern Pennsylvania Association, the Southwestern Missouri Yearly Meeting, the J. S. Manning Yearly Meeting, New York and Pennsylvania Yearly Meeting, Shenandoah and Piedmont Association, and Union Free Baptist Association Tennessee.

lievers as the only scriptural baptism, and the communion of all Christians, as may be admitted to the Conference by a two-thirds vote at any regular meeting.

ART. 2. The object of this Conference shall be to devise and execute measures for the extension of the kingdom of Christ in connection with the various bodies herein represented.

ART. 3. This Conference shall have authority to apportion to the yearly meetings and associations a due ratio of the amount necessary to prosecute the denominational work, and to ask contributions from yearly meetings or associations, quarterly meetings, churches, and individuals, as occasion may require. Gifts and bequests to the various denominational societies shall become the property of this Conference, and be held in trust for the special objects for which they were given, when these societies, singly or severally, shall transfer their work to the Conference.

It shall have the right to discipline, and if necessary to exclude, any association, yearly meeting, or other body belonging to it; but in no case shall it have power to reverse or change the decisions of churches or quarterly meetings.

ART. 4. Each yearly meeting or association belonging to this Conference shall be entitled to representation by one delegate; and every yearly meeting or association whose church communicants amount to one thousand five hundred to two delegates, and one delegate for each additional thousand church members or major part thereof.

ART. 5. There shall be chosen by ballot from persons in good standing in the denomination, who may or may not be members of the Conference, a Conference Board, to consist of twenty-one members, at least one-third of whom shall be women, to which is hereby delegated full power to act for and in behalf of the Conference from one regular meeting of the Conference to another. At the election in 1898 said Board shall be elected for four years, or until July 1, 1902; and at each subsequent meeting of the Conference said Board shall be elected for three years from the time they enter upon the discharge of their duties, which shall be on July 1 in the year succeeding that of their election. The said

Board shall have power to choose all needful officers, adopt all rules needful for its own government, and to carry out the plans and undertakings of the Conference, make contracts, employ agents, authorize the execution of legal papers, collect and appropriate funds, and exercise all the powers and functions of the General Conference not in conflict with its rules, resolutions, and directions. It shall keep a correct record of all its proceedings, make a full report at each regular session of the Conference, and be subject to and comply with all directions, requests, and regulations of the Conference. Nine members of this Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. All members of the Conference Board shall be members *ex officio* of the Conference.

ART. 6. The officers of this Conference shall be a president, two vice-presidents, a clerk, an assistant clerk, a treasurer, corresponding secretary, and an auditor, all to be chosen by ballot, who shall respectively hold office until the next regular Conference and until others shall be chosen and qualified in their stead. The clerk, assistant clerk, treasurer, and auditor may be chosen from persons who are not members of this Conference.

ART. 7. The president shall preside in all meetings of the Conference, and, unless it is otherwise ordered, appoint all the committees necessary to be appointed.

One of the vice-presidents shall preside in the absence of the president, and in the absence of both vice-presidents a president *pro tem.* shall be chosen.

The clerk and assistant clerk shall take the required oath of office before a magistrate, keep a true record of the doings of the Conference, and certify that the same is true.

The clerk shall be a resident of the State of Maine, and shall keep a clerk's office in said State in accordance with the laws thereof.

The treasurer shall give bonds satisfactory to the Conference Board, and shall receive and dispose of all moneys paid into the treasury under the direction of the Conference Board, and keep an accurate account of the same, and make a full report quarterly and at such other times as he shall be requested by the Board of the

Conference, which report shall be published in at least two of the denominational papers. The treasurer shall be a member *ex officio* of the Conference.

The corresponding secretary shall be the executive officer of the General Conference, acting under its direction and the direction of the Conference Board or of the executive committee.

The auditor shall at least once a year make a careful examination of the accounts and vouchers of the treasurer, and submit the same to the Conference Board.

ART. 8. The president and treasurer shall sign all deeds, bonds, notes, etc., and other papers by which the Conference is to become legally held.

ART. 9. Vacancies occurring by death, resignation, or otherwise in the delegation of any association, yearly meeting, or other body belonging to the Conference, may be filled by the body in which the vacancy occurs in any way it may elect. Vacancies occurring in the Conference Board, or in any office of the Conference or of the Conference Board, shall be filled by the Conference Board.

ART. 10. A meeting of the General Conference, to be called by the clerk or president, shall be held every third year, in August or September, or at such time and place as the Conference or Conference Board may determine, the time and place being given in some paper published in the State of Maine, and in at least two of the denominational papers, if such exist, at least ninety days before the time of holding said meeting. Special meetings at the direction of the Conference Board may be called in the same way, provided that notice shall be sent to each member of the Conference, post prepaid, directed to his last known address, thirty days before the time of holding such meeting.

ART. 11. Thirty-three members of the Conference shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a less number may call to order and adjourn.

ART. 12. This Constitution may be amended at any triennial session by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided such amendment has been proposed in writing at a previous session by a

member of the Conference, or proposed in writing at any time by the Conference Board, a yearly meeting, or an association, due notice of the proposed change or changes having been given at least six months beforehand in a paper published in the State of Maine, and in not less than two denominational papers, if such exist.

By-Laws

1. All persons declared by a committee on credentials to be duly elected delegates to the Freewill Baptist General Conference, to meet at Lowell, Mass., Oct. 5, 1892, are hereby made and constituted members of this corporation, and authorized to act in all respects according to the provisions of the charter, Constitution, and By-Laws under which this Conference is organized.

2. It shall be the duty of every yearly meeting, association, or other body belonging to the Conference to send a letter to every triennial meeting of the Conference, reporting in the same its spiritual condition, its works of benevolence, and its statistics. Any yearly meeting, association, or other body belonging to the Conference, which shall fail to report itself for two successive sessions may be dismissed from the Conference by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

3. Each meeting of the Conference shall be opened by prayer.

4. At each regular session of the Conference the following standing committees shall be appointed: The Denomination, Doctrine, Church Polity, Education, Sunday-schools, Temperance, The Country, The Ministry, Publications, Home Missions, The New West, Foreign Missions, Requests, Correspondence, Young People's Work, Bible Cause, Finance, Closing Resolutions, and on Ministerial Record, which last committee shall report at the next triennial session of the General Conference after its appointment. It shall be the duty of the Finance Committee to assist the treasurer in making and managing investments, and to make an annual report of the condition of the same to the Conference Board; said committee may or may not be members of the General Conference. All petitions and communications on particular subjects shall be referred to their appropriate committees. Special committees may be appointed at the pleasure of the Conference.

5. This Conference may correspond by messenger or otherwise with other religious bodies.

6. This Conference shall sit with open doors except when it may go into committee of the whole.

7. Any person not a member of this Conference may be allowed to take part in its discussions by obtaining permission of the Conference.

8. It shall be the duty of all the members of this Conference to be present at the time appointed for each meeting, and any one wishing to retire shall first obtain leave of the chair.

9. No member shall absent himself from Conference during its meetings without first obtaining permission from the Conference.

10. No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of any committee, provided the person nominated be elected.

11. The yeas and nays may be taken on any question by request of one-fifth of the members present.

12. No member of this Conference shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes, and but once on the same subject, without permission of the Conference.

13. These By-Laws may be changed or amended, at any meeting regularly called, by a two-thirds vote of those present, provided notice of the proposed change or amendment be inserted in the call for the meeting, or given at a meeting of the Conference previously held.

Constitution and By-Laws of Conference Board

The following are the Constitution and By-Laws adopted by Conference Board:

CONSTITUTION

1. The officers of this Board shall be a president, a vice-president, a recording secretary, corresponding secretary and treasurer, who shall be the treasurer of the General Conference, a field secretary, and an executive committee of seven, in which the president and recording secretary shall be included. These officers shall be elected at the annual meeting.

2. The president, vice-president, recording secretary, and corresponding secretary and treasurer shall perform the usual duties of such officers. The field secretary shall act as an executive under the direction of the Board or of the executive committee. The executive committee shall have general charge and direction of the work of the Board not otherwise provided for, during the interim of its meetings, subject to the instruction and approval of the Board, and shall make a full report to the Board at each meeting.

3. There shall be an annual meeting of the Conference Board, with anniversary exercises, during August or September, or at such time and in such place as the executive committee shall determine. There shall also be such special meetings for business only as shall be called by the executive committee.

BY-LAWS

1. Each meeting of the Conference Board shall be opened by prayer.

2. Any member of the Board not able to be present at a meeting of the Board shall report the reason for absence to the secretary prior to the meeting.

3. No member shall absent himself from the Board during its meetings without obtaining permission from the Board. Members violating this rule shall forfeit their traveling expenses.

4. The order of business at meetings of the Board shall be as follows:

(1) Call to order.
(2) Roll-call.
(3) Prayer.
(4) Reading minutes.
(5) Reports of committees.
(6) Unfinished business.
(7) Election of officers.
(8) New business.
(9) Adjournment.

5. This Constitution and these By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting of the Board.

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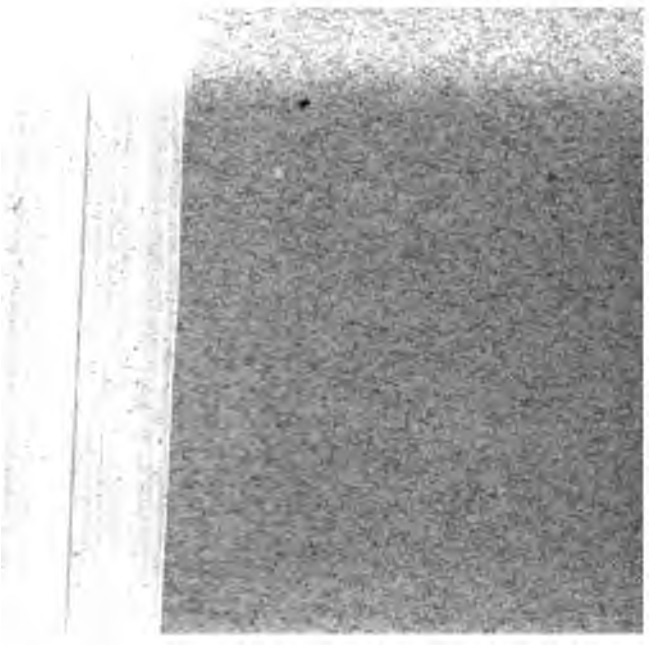
MINUTES

OF THE THIRTY-SECOND GENERAL CONFERENCE OF FREE BAPTISTS

A. D. 1904



MINUTES

OF THE

Thirty-second

General Conference

OF

FREE BAPTISTS

HELD AT

HILLSDALE, MICHIGAN, SEPT. 6–13, 1904

BOSTON, U. S. A:
MORNING STAR PUBLISHING HOUSE
457 Shawmut Avenue
1905

GENERAL CONFERENCES

The General Conference of the Freewill Baptist Connection in North America

Place	Time	Days	No. of Del'g	Moderator	Clerk
Tunbridge, Vt.	Oct. 11, 1827.	4	80	Enoch Place	Hosea Quimby.
Sandwich, N. H.	9, '28.	4	35	Nathaniel King	" "
Spafford, N. Y.	10, '29.	4	15	Henry Hobbs	J. M. Yearnshaw.
Greenville, R. I.	14, '30.	4	15	S. Hutchins	" " "
Wilton, Me.	12, '31.	4	14	Benjamin Thorn	Hosea Quimby.
Meredith, N. H.	10, '32.	4	21	S. B. Dyer	N. Loring.
Strafford, Vt.	9, '33.	6	24	S. Whitney	Hosea Quimby.
Byron, N. Y.	7, '35.	7	24	" "	Silas Curtis.
Greenville, R. I.	4, '37.	6	25	J. M. Harper	" "
Conneaut, O.	2, '39.	5	28	" " "	Wm. Burr.
Topsham, Me.	6, '41.	6	41	" " "	Silas Curtis.
Plainfield, N. Y.	2, '44.	7	53	J. Woodman	" "
Sutton, Vt.	6, '47.	10	51	" "	" "
Providence, R. I.	2, '50.	9	52	Martin Cheney	" "
Fairport, N. Y.	5, '53.	8	57	F. W. Straight	" "
Maineville, O.	1, '56.	8	57	E. Knowlton	" "
Lowell, Mass.	5, '59.	8	56	" "	" "
Hillsdale, Mich.	1, '62.	8	60	E. B. Fairfield	" "
Lewiston, Me.	4, '65.	9	55	" " "	" "
Buffalo, N. Y.	7, '68.	8	71	J. O'Donnell	I. D. Stewart.
Hillsdale, Mich.	4, '71.	8	71	E. Knowlton	" " "
Providence, R. I.	7, '74.	9	73	D. W. C. Durgin	" " "
Fairport, N. Y.	3, '77.	8	78	O. B. Cheney	" " "
Weirs, N. H.	July 21, '80.	9	84	" " "	" " "
Minneapolis, Minn.	Oct. 4, '83.	5	78	R. Dunn	" " "
Marion, O.	14, '86.	7	88	J. L. Phillips	" " "
Harper's Ferry, W. Va.	Sept. 25, '89.	9	84	O. B. Cheney	G. F. Mosher.
Lowell, Mass.	Oct. 5, '92.	7	81	J. A. Howe	R. Deering.

The General Conference of Free Baptists

Incorporated Jan. 19, 1891

Constitution and By-Laws adopted Oct. 11, 1892

	Time	Days	No. of Del'g	President	
. . . .	Oct. 5, '92.	7	81	J. A. Howe.	
. . . .	2, '95.	7	96	G. F. Mosher.	R. D
Me. . .	Aug. 25, '98.	7	98	R. D. Lord	N. S.
. . .	Sept. 4, '01.	7	97	" " "	" "
. . .	Sept. 6, '04.	8	104	L. M. Webb	" "

Officers of the 32nd General Conference

PRESIDENT

LINDLEY M. WEBB, ESQ., ... Portland, Me.

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

PRES. JOSEPH W. MAUCK, LL. D., . . Hillsdale, Mich

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

HON. GEORGE F. MOSHER, LL. D., . . . Boston, Mass.

CLERK

HON. N. S. PURINTON, ... West Bowdoin, Me.

FIRST ASSISTANT CLERK

HON. E. P. METCALF, ... Providence, R. I.

SECOND ASSISTANT CLERK

MRS. LOU M. P. DURGIN, . . . Winnebago City, Minn.

TREASURER

REV. ARTHUR GIVEN, D. D., ... Auburn, R. I.

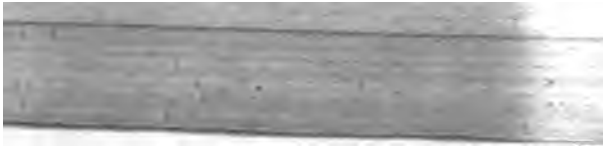
AUDITOR

FRED S. HEATH, ... Concord, N. H.

DIES COMPOSING THE THIRTY-SECOND GENERAL CONFEREN

DELEGATES	NUMBER OF Q. M's	NUMBER OF CHURCHES	NUMBER OF MINISTERS†
Mrs. S. C. G. Avery, N. H.; Mrs. E. B. Cheney, R. I.; Miss Harriet A. Deering, Me., Miss L. A. DeMeritte, N. H.; Mrs. L. M. P. Durgin, Minn.; Rev. H. M. Ford, D.D., Mich.; Rev. W. J. Fulton, Ohio; Rev. Arthur Given, D. D., R. I.; Rev. G. A. Gordon, Ill.; Mrs. L. C. Griffin, N. Y.; Mrs. Alice L. Hulce, Mich., Rev. J. J. Hull, Wis.; Rev. R. R. Kennan, Minn., Rev. R. D. Lord, D. D., N. Y.; Rev. T. J. Mawhorter, Ind., Hon. [illegible] P. Metcalf, R. I.; Hon. [illegible]			

Kansas, Northern	Rev. John W. McLaughlin	4	8	5	463	29	
Kansas, Southern	Rev. Fred Comber	2	8	10	440	65	
Kentucky	Rev. B. M. McIntosh, Rev. A. J. Herron	3	31	47	1,427	. . .	205
Louisiana		5	36	60	1,307	338	
Maine	Prof. J. A. Howe, Prof. A. W. Anthony, Rev. A. T. Salley, E. K. Jordan, Rev. F. S. Hartley, Rev. G. E. Manter, A. E. Purinton, Miss Clara Purinton, Mrs. Marshall H. White, Hiram Knowlton, Mrs. L. M. Webb, Rev. S. C. Whitcomb, Rev. G. H. Hamlen, N. S. Purinton	16	230	140	12,963	. . .	525
Massachusetts	Rev. W. J. Twort, A. L. Freeman, Rev. D. B. Martin	3	18	22	3,150	208	
Michigan	Pres. J. W. Mauck, Rev. J. H. Maynard, Rev. Lizzie Moody, Rev. W. P. Van Wormer, Rev. A. A. Glovier, Rev. G. W. Stansbury	16	105	100	5,865	16	
Minnesota	Pres. E. W. Van Aken, Rev. J. M. Young, Rev. James W. Lash	5	32	23	1,666	. . .	353
Mississippi		5	41	62	1,801	. . .	156
Missouri, Northeastern		2	11	8	250	. . .	186
Missouri, Northwestern‡		3	11	11	486	. . .	310
Missouri, Southeastern		2	15	16	850	278	
Missouri, Southwestern		2	11	13	927	527	
Missouri, Western	Rev. H. Green	2	17	28	900	20	
Mt. Moriah, Ala‡		1	11	. . .	697		
Nebraska	Rev. J. H. Wolfe	5	19	20	668	70	
Nebraska, Central‡		2	7	4	116		
Nebraska, Northern		2	10	8	221		
New Hampshire	Rev. C. S. Perkins, Rev. Thomas H. Stacy, Rev. E. G. Eastman, Rev. W. W. Harris, Rev. A. E. Wilson, Rev. A. P. Davis, Rev. A. C. Keith, Fred S. Heath	8	98	89	7,326	. . .	437
New York Central	Rev. Otto L. Nichols, Rev. C. A. Buker, Rev. L. H. Sprague	6	33	22	2,680	. . .	10
New York & Penn.	Rev. G. H. Ball, Rev. C. M. Butler	4	25	21	1,330	. . .	227
Nova Scotia Conf.	Rev. J. E. Gosline	4	41	17	3,440	3,440	
Ohio	Rev. C. P. Collett	2	9	13	798	206	
Ohio, Central	Rev. M. C. Miner, Rev. E. E. Cartwright	5	26	18	1,406	. . .	381
Ohio & Penn.	Rev. R. H. Westwood. C. D. Allen	5	29	15	1,596	. . .	433
Ohio River	Pres. J. M. Davis, Rev. G. E. Moore, Rev. G. V. Frey	5	28	16	2,580	. . .	124
Ohio & Kentucky	Rev. T. O. Reed, Miss Ella R. Price	2	11	9	600	. . .	559
Ontario, Can.‡		1	4	2	194		



...IES COMPOSING THE THIRTY-SECOND GENERAL CONFERENCE

	Delegates.	Number of Q. M's.	Number of Churches.	
. . .	Rev. S. J. Weed	1	5	
. . .	. . . . .	2	6	
. . .	. . . . .	1	3	
. . .	Rev. H. C. Lowden, Rev. G. M. Caldwell, Miss M. D. Tucker, A. T. Stratton, Rev. F. M. Buker	2	5	
Va. .	. . . . .	1	36	
. . .	Rev. Isaac Hyatt	2	15	
. . .	Rev. F. G. Mathews	2	10	
. . .	. . . . .	2	7	
. . .	. . . . .	4	23	
		3	18	
		2	11	

Committees

STANDING COMMITTEES

Bible Cause.—Hyatt of New York, Droz of Indiana, Davis of New Hampshire, Glovier of Michigan, McIntosh of Kentucky.

Church Polity.—Ball of New York, Maynard of Michigan, Harris of New Hampshire, Manter of Maine, Mrs. Anderson of Illinois.

Closing Resolutions.—Space of New York, Caldwell of Rhode Island, White of Vermont, Miss Purinton of Maine, Hagerty of Indiana, Frey of Ohio.

Correspondence.—Stacy of New Hampshire, Alborn of Wisconsin, Mathews of New York, Mrs. Hulce of Michigan, McLaughlin of Kansas.

The Country.—Hull of Maine, Nichols of New York, Westwood of Ohio, Ricks of Illinois, Miss Price of Ohio.

Denomination.—Anthony of Maine, Patch of Michigan, Eastman of New Hampshire, Twort of Massachusetts, Miss DeMeritte of Maine.

Doctrine.—Howe of Maine, Mawhorter of Indiana, Herron of Kentucky, Gosline of Nova Scotia, Mrs. McLatchey of New York, Moore of Ohio.

Education.—Davis of Ohio, Van Aken of Minnesota, Miss Moody of Michigan, Jordan of Maine, Arter of Illinois.

Finance.—Mauck of Michigan, Stratton of Rhode Island, A. E. Purinton of Maine, Buker of New York, Cartwright of Ohio.

Foreign Missions.—Kennan of Minnesota, Heath of New Hampshire, Wyman of Bengal, Mrs. Griffin of New York, Hamlen of Maine, Mrs. Durgin of Minnesota.

Home Missions.—Fulton of Ohio, Gordon of Illinois, Simonton of New York, Wolfe of Nebraska, Whitcomb of Maine.

The Ministry.—Wilson of New Hampshire, Jefferson of Vermont, Weed of Pennsylvania, McMinn of Iowa, Buker of Rhode Island.

The New West.—Van Wormer of Michigan, Miner of Ohio, Comber of Kansas, Young of Minnesota, Woolsey of Tennessee, Green of Missouri.

Publications.—Knowlton of Maine, Lord of New York, Keith of New Hampshire, Stansbury of Michigan, Mrs. Cheney of Rhode Island, Mrs. Avery of Maine.

Requests.—Perkins of New Hampshire, Tatum of Illinois, McBride of Iowa, Hartley of Maine, Freeman of Massachusetts.

Sunday Schools.—Salley of Maine, Woodworth of New York, Miss Deering of Maine, Butler of New York, Allen of Ohio, Miss Tucker of Rhode Island.

Temperance.—Brackett of West Virginia, McKoon of New York, Reed of Ohio, Phillips of New York, Mrs. White of Maine, Mrs. Webb of Maine.

Young People's Work.—Martin of Massachusetts, Lowden of Rhode Island, Sprague of New York, Collett of Ohio, Metcalf of Rhode Island, Lash of Minnesota.

RETAINED COMMITTEES

Conference Board.—Prof. A. W. Anthony, D. D., of Maine, Mrs. S. C. G. Avery of Maine, Rev. Ellen A. Copp of Wisconsin, Miss Harriet A. Deering of Maine, Miss Laura A. DeMeritte of Maine, Mrs. Lou M. P. Durgin of Minnesota, Rev. W. J. Fulton of Ohio, Rev. G. A. Gordon of Illinois, Rev. J. E. Goslne of Nova Scotia, Mrs. A. M. Holt of Michigan, Mrs. Alice Hulce of Michigan, Rev. R. R. Kennan of Minnesota, Rev. R. D. Lord, D. D., of New York, Pres. J. W. Mauck, LL. D., of Michigan, Rev. T. J. Mawhorter of Indiana, Hon. E. P. Metcalf of Rhode Island, Hon. G. F. Mosher, LL. D., of Massachusetts, Rev. O. D. Patch, D. D., of Michigan, Rev. Z. A. Space of New York, Rev. T. H. Stacy of New Hampshire, L. M. Webb, Esq., of Maine.

Ministerial Records.—Hon. G. F. Mosher, LL. D., of Massachusetts, Rev. F. L. Wiley of New Hampshire, Rev. G. H. Ball, D. D., of New York.

Publishing Minutes.—Hon. N. S. Purinton and Prof A. W. Anthony of Maine.

Program

Tuesday, Sept. 6th.—10.30 A. M., General Conference called to order, adjourned until evening. 2.00 P. M., Conference Board. 7.15, General Conference called; praise service, Mr. C. H. Woodworth, New York. 7.30, Conference sermon, Rev. C. S. Pendleton, New York; appointment of committees on credentials and seating.

Wednesday, Sept. 7th.—8.00 A. M., devotional. 8.30, Conference called; report of committee on credentials and seating; welcome to the Conference, President J. W. Mauck, LL. D., Michigan; response by the president, Rev. R. D. Lord, D. D., New York; election of president, two vice-presidents, clerk, two assistant clerks. 1.30 P. M., report of Conference Board, Rev. H. M. Ford, D. D., Michigan; report of treasurer, Rev. Arthur Given, D. D., Rhode Island; report of corresponding secretary, Rev. Arthur Given, D.D., Rhode Island; report of field secretary, Rev. H. M. Ford, D. D., Michigan; report of mission correspondent, Rev. Libbie C. Griffin, New York; report of general secretary of United Society of Free Baptist Young People, Mr. Harry S. Myers, Michigan; report of corresponding secretary of Woman's Missionary Society, Mrs. S. C. G. Avery, Maine; report of joint committee. 7.15, praise service, Mr. C. H. Woodworth, New York. 7.30, address, "The Denominational College," President E. W. VanAken, Minnesota; appointment of standing committees of the Conference.

Thursday, Sept. 8th (*United Society of Free Baptist Young People*).—8.00 A. M., devotional, Rev. T. C. Lawrence, Ohio. 9.00, call to order; report of treasurer, Rev. Arthur Given, D. D., Rhode Island; report of president, Hon. E. P. Metcalf, Rhode Island; appointment of committees. 9.30, the mission study class, Miss Rachael Davies, Ohio. 10.00, the missionary department, Mr. H. S. Myers, Michigan. 11.00, the State young people's committee, Miss Agnes H. Collins, New Hampshire. 1.30 P. M., devotional.

...ore, India; presentation of miss
proportionate gifts for missions.
praise service, Mr. C. H. Woodv
" Palestine and Its Mission," Re

Friday, Sept. 9th.—8.00 A. M
called; reports of correspondi
reports of corresponding messen
State agents; general business.
treasurer of Morning Star Publis
Massachusetts; "Our Publicatio
Massachusetts; general business.
ministers entering the denomin
Hampshire. 4.00, "Qualifications
D. B. Reed, D. D., Michigan.
Woodworth, New York. 7.30, a
sion and Membership in the Churc
Maine; "The Lord's Supper," R
Hampshire, Rev. J. H. Maynard, M

Saturday, Sept. 10th.—8.00 A. M
called; amendments to the Constit
of committees; 1.30 P. M., nomina
Board and other officers; addre
West," Rev. R. R. Kennan, Mini

:rvice, "What the Bible Teaches about Heaven," John
Rev. 21: 1–8. 7.30, sermon, Rev. A. T. Salley, D. D.,

Sept. 12th.—8.00 A. M., devotional. 8.30, Conference
neral business; reports of committees. 1.30 P. M., elec-
nbers of Conference Board and other officers; nomination
tors of Morning Star Publishing House; nomination of
Manning Bible School; reports of committees; general
4.00, introduction of all missionaries present. 7.15,
ice, Mr. C. H. Woodworth, New York. 7.30, missionary
"General Conditions of Missionary Work in India,"
Miner, Ohio; "Special Work in the Balasore District,"
I. Hamlen, India; "Special Work in the Midnapore
Rev. H. E. Wyman, India.

', *Sept. 13th.*—8.00 A. M., devotional. 8.30, Conference
neral business; reports of committees. 1.30 P. M.,
siness; reports of committees. 3.30, reports from
Bates, Prof. A. W. Anthony, D. D., Maine; Keuka,
Emeritus Rev. G. H. Ball, D. D., New York; Rio Grande,
J. M. Davis, Ph. D., Ohio; Storer, Prof. N. C. Brackett,
st Virginia; Parker, Rev. J. H. Lash, A. B., Minnesota;
Bible School, Principal J. M. Arter, A. M., Illinois;
incipal J. W. Lucas, Tennessee; Hillsdale, President
ck, LL. D., Michigan. 7.15, praise service, Mr. C. H.
h, New York. 7.30, farewell service.

O. D. PATCH,
HARRY S. MYERS,
ALICE HULCE,
} *Committee on Program*

MINUTES

The thirty-second session of the General Conference of Free Baptists assembled at the Free Baptist church, Hillsdale, Mich., on Tuesday, September 6, 1904, at 10.30 o'clock in the forenoon, and was called to order by the president, Rev. R. D. Lord, D. D., of Brooklyn, N. Y.

The Scriptures were read and prayer offered by Pres. J. M. Davis, Ph. D., D. D., of Rio Grande, O.

The official call of the Conference was read by the clerk, Hon. N. S. Purinton of Maine, as follows:—

MEETING OF GENERAL CONFERENCE

The regular triennial session of the General Conference of Free Baptists will be held in the Free Baptist church at Hillsdale in the State of Michigan on Tuesday, September 6, 1904, at 10.30 A. M., for the following purposes, namely: —

First.— To choose all officers required by the Constitution and By-Laws, and such other officers as may be deemed necessary to carry out the wishes of the Conference.

Second.— To take any action that may be regarded necessary to carry out the purposes and plans of the Conference.

Third.— To see what action the General Conference will take in regard to the amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws, notice of which has been heretofore given as required.

Fourth.— To see what action the Conference will take in reference to making legal any previous meeting or action of the Conference.

Dated at Clerk's Office, at West Bowdoin, Maine, this 25th day of May, A. D. 1904.

N. S. PURINTON,
Clerk of General Conference.

CERTIFICATE OF NOTICE

This is to certify that I have published the foregoing notice of the time and place of meeting of the General Conference of Free Baptists in *The Morning Star* and *The Free Baptist*, two denominational papers, also in *The Kennebec Journal*, a paper published at Augusta in the County of Kennebec and State of Maine, ninety days before said meeting of said General Conference, the same being the legal notice required. (See Constitution, Art. 10.)

Dated at West Bowdoin, Me., this 25th day of May, A. D. 1904.

N. S. PURINTON,
Clerk of General Conference of Free Baptists.

On motion of Dr. Ball of New York, it was voted that when we adjourn it be to 7.15 o'clock this evening in this place.

The benediction was pronounced by the president, Dr. Lord, after which adjournment was declared.

TUESDAY EVENING

Pursuant to adjournment Conference assembled at 7.15 o'clock, President Lord in the chair. There was a song service of fifteen minutes. The Scriptures were read by Rev. A. E. Wilson of New Hampshire, and prayer was offered by Dr. G. H. Ball of New York.

The Conference sermon was preached by Rev. Charles S. Pendleton of Oneonta, N. Y.

On motion of Webb of Maine, a committee on credentials was appointed by the chair, consisting of Twort of Massachusetts, Stacy of New Hampshire, Webb of Maine, Mrs. Copp of Wisconsin, and Maynard of Michigan.

On motion of Patch of Michigan, a committee on

seating delegates was appointed by the chair, consisting of Lowden of Rhode Island, and Mrs. Hulce of Michigan.

On motion of Webb of Maine, it was voted that, when we adjourn, it be to 8.30 o'clock to-morrow morning at this place.

Prayer was offered by President Lord, and adjournment declared.

HILLSDALE, MICH., Wednesday, Sept. 7, 1904.

Conference assembled at 8.30 A. M., agreeable to adjournment, President Lord in the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. C. S. Perkins, D. D., of New Hampshire.

A partial report of the committee on credentials was submitted by Twort of Massachusetts, showing that a quorum was present.

On motion of Salley of Maine, voted that the report as made be adopted.

The report of the committee on seating delegates was submitted by Lowden of Rhode Island. On motion of Wilson of New Hampshire, voted to adopt the report.

On motion of Howe of Maine, voted to adopt the program, as presented by the committee on program, subject to necessary changes.

An address of welcome was given by President Mauck of Hillsdale College, and a fitting response by the president, Dr. Lord.

On motion of Fulton of Ohio, voted that an informal ballot for president be taken.

On motion of Metcalf of Rhode Island, tellers were

After the call to orde
Illinois, the chair appointe
and Myers of Michigan as

A supplementary report
dentials was, on motion of
By this report it was show
Board and seventy-nine de
at this session a members
Conference.

On motion of Space of
delegates from the New Y
Meeting; and on motion o
voted to seat the delegate f
Meeting; in both instance
committee on credentials.

On motion of Anthony o
application of the Pennsylv
for membership to the com

On motion of Woodwort
all requests for admission

cast; necessary for a choice, forty-six; no one having received that number, there was no election. On a second ballot ninety-two votes were cast; necessary for a choice, forty-seven; L. M. Webb, Esq., of Maine having received more than that number, was declared elected, and thereupon took the chair.

On motion of Anthony of Maine, voted that a committee of five be appointed by the chair to nominate the remaining officers of the Conference. The chair appointed Kennan of Minnesota, Wilson of New Hampshire, Mrs. Cheney of Rhode Island, Knowlton of Maine, and Mrs. Griffin of New York.

On motion of Woodworth of New York, voted that the matter of social meetings and services on the Sabbath be referred to the committee on program with power.

The committee on nomination reported the following names:—

First vice-president, President J. W. Mauck, LL. D., Michigan; second vice-president, Hon. G. F. Mosher, LL. D., Massachusetts; clerk, Hon. N. S. Purinton, Maine; first assistant clerk, Hon. E. P. Metcalf, Rhode Island; second assistant clerk, Mrs. Lou M. P. Durgin, Minnesota.

The report was accepted, a ballot was taken, and the foregoing persons were declared elected to the respective offices.

The clerk and assistant clerks were then sworn to the faithful discharge of the duties of their offices, as appears by the following certificate:—

HILLSDALE, MICH., Sept. 7, 1904.

There appeared before me Hon. N. S. Purinton, clerk of the General Conference of Free Baptists, Hon. E. P. Metcalf, first assistant clerk, and Mrs. Lou M. P. Durgin, second assistant clerk, who were duly sworn to perform the duties of their offices according to the Constitution and requirements of the General Conference of Free Baptists. GROVER A. JACKSON, *Notary Public.*

My commission expires April 28, 1907.

The report of the committee on printed Minutes was submitted by Anthony of Maine, and adopted.

On motion of Frey of Ohio, voted that, when we adjourn, it be to 1.30 o'clock this afternoon in this place.

Prayer was offered by Rev. J. J. Hull of Maine, and adjournment was declared.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

Conference was called to order by the president at 1.30 P. M., pursuant to adjournment. Prayer was offered by Rev. A. Given, D. D., of Rhode Island.

The report of the Conference Board was presented by its secretary, Rev. H. M. Ford, D. D., of Michigan. It was as follows:—

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE BOARD

Since the General Conference met at Harper's Ferry in September, 1901, the Conference Board has been in session three times: at Harper's Ferry, during and after General Conference; at Olneyville, July 15–17, 1902, and at Hillsdale, July 1–3, 1903.

The Executive Committee has been in session ten times, once at Hillsdale and nine times at the Star office. At each one of these

a quorum was present, and each session of the Board and Committee was characterized by harmony and good-will. the three meetings of the full Board and the ten meet- : Executive Committee two hundred and fifty-two motions :d.

ave to give a summary of the business done for the last s as follows: —

'e made appropriations to the following Home Mission hirty-five in all: —

is, Ill.,	550	Boston, Mass,	600
n, Md.,	50	Storer College,	2,400
ht, Shen.,	50	Augusta, Kan.,	200
lass.,	175	Horton, Kan.,	340
lass.,	3,632	Cambridge, Mass.,	175
n, D. C.,	85	Sioux Falls, S. Dak.,	525
t.,	25	Valley Springs, S. Dak.,	100
Mass.,	425	Worcester, Mass.,	275
, Pa.,	100	Combers, So. Kan.,	200
ights, N. Y.	75	San Francisco, Cal.,	400
sociation,	225	Potter, N. Y.,	75
Mich.,	450	St. Regis Falls, N. Y.,	250
Minn.,	50	Wellsboro, N. Y.,	
h, Ohio,	500	Elmira Heights, N. Y.,	
l.,	175	Potter, N. Y.,	
d Nebraska,	350	United Society of Y. P.	50
Ohio,	300	Church Federation,	25
Me.,	200	Iowa Yearly Meeting,	50
, Vt.,	75	Y. P. Miss. movement,	30
, R. I.,	100		
		Total,	9,660

THE MANNING BIBLE SCHOOL

ig the Manning Bible School, the Board has endorsed ig of a dormitory and consented to the raising of funds in to the amount of $2,500.

The Board also names the persons from whom the trustees shall be selected.

It receives and acts upon the annual report.

There will be a fuller report of this school and the annual institutes later, by Prof. Arter.

UNICOI

On the occasion of the last General Conference at Harper's Ferry, the Mountain Educational Commission was organized with the approval of General Conference (see minutes, page 123) with Dr. Ball as chairman, E. P. Metcalf, treasurer, and Prof. J. W. Lucas, financial agent and secretary. It was the general purpose to establish a school for the mountaineers in Tennessee or North Carolina, if, after thorough investigation into the needs and conditions and location and financial outlook, it seemed feasible. The Unicoi Promotion Company offered for sale eight hundred acres of land at Unicoi, Tenn., with a fine hotel and other buildings, property valued at from $50,000 to $75,000 for $18,500. The Mountain Educational Commission accepted this property after investigation, in the month of April, 1902, and made J. W. Lucas agent to sell lots.

The plan of the Commission was to interest prominent and influential people of Tennessee in the enterprise, and to raise the money substantially in the South, raising a part by the sale of a portion of the property. But this plan failed and the Commission voted the following resolution in January, 1903: "Resolved, that the Mountain Educational Commission transfer to the Free Baptist General Conference all its interests, rights and privileges, including title to the property recently purchased at Unicoi, Tenn., the General Conference assuming all liabilities of the Commission. Secondly, that Dr. Given and E. P. Metcalf be authorized to represent the Mountain Educational Commission in making the transfer, and that E. P. Metcalf be authorized to sign as treasurer of the Commission all papers necessary to said transfer.

Conference Board, through its Executive Committee, took over the property December, 1902, and assumed the obligations and re-

sponsibilities of the Mountain Educational Commission, and the same was made a matter of record July 1, 1903.

The amount to be assumed was $18,500, the amount already raised was $5,300, and the amount raised by Bro. Lucas was $490.32. The first payment was made in October, 1902, of $1,500; the second in February, 1903, of $4,585.50, and August, 1903, $8,000, and the balance October 16, 1904, of $4,500. The last payment is still to be made.

In July, 1903, the Board appointed Ford, Space, and Myers a committee to have charge of the school, devise plans for raising money, satisfy claims, and develop the enterprise and make reports to the Board.

They have taken charge of the work since the above date. Each of the committee has visited the field, and one member of the committee has been in the field three times.

The school was opened last year Aug. 15, and sixty-five scholars were in attendance. The school opens up this year Aug. 15, with ninety students.

Principal Lucas is in attendance at this General Conference and will speak for Unicoi before the session closes.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

The Board elects H. S. Myers as official representative on the Executive Committee of the Young People's Missionary movement. He was instructed to visit colleges, to interest and engage students in volunteer work, and $75 is appropriated.

Rhode Island and Massachusetts Young People have made formal request that H. S. Myers be put into the field at salary of $1,000 and expenses, and scores of others demanded the same thing. The Board last July recommended H. S. Myers to give his full time to the Young People's Work, with its pledge that it would make up any deficiency that the Young People cannot raise,— he to be under supervision of the Executive Committee.

Resolved, that we recommend to General Conference that the duties of Corresponding Secretary be so enlarged as to include the work which the United Society of Free Baptist Young People desire should be done among them by a General Conference officer.

The apportionment for the Young People is recommended to be brought up at General Conference. (See Minutes, 1903.)

NOVA SCOTIA

Dr. Given reported that the Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia voted, in 1902, to become a part of our General Conference.

Voted, that H. M. Ford visit Nova Scotia for Conference Board.

THE FIELD SECRETARY

The Board voted that the Field Secretary, when called to dedicate a church, shall charge $10 and one per cent on all moneys raised.

TRANSFER OF PROPERTY

The treasurer and Finance Committee are instructed to return no deed to church property until they receive adequate remuneration.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

The Harvest Festival plans voted and advocated by the Board in 1901 do not seem to meet with a general respone. This is doubtless owing to the fact that the monthly mission day is obtaining in so many schools, and also owing to so much being made of Children's Day in June.

MAP OF INDIA

Messrs. Hamlen and Mosher are a committee to bring forward a map, with instructions that it be ready August 1.

STATE AGENTS

State agents are asked to make written report to the Board annually.

The Board also approves of the employment of state agents, and will give all moral and financial support within its power.

WESTERN AGENT

Requests coming in from various brethren in the West that a Western agent be appointed for Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, and

the territories south, it was decided by vote that the territory was so large that the benefits derived would not justify the cost, considering the low state of the Home Mission Treasury, but would assure our brethren in that territory that we are interested in their work and stand ready to help them when it seems practicable and funds warrant.

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE TREASURER

The treasurer is instructed to append to his report in the Year Book a list of funds reported as raised for General Conference and not credited in his books; also a condensed statement of receipts for Young People's Work.

The Woman's Treasurer is also asked to send a summary of receipts and expenditures to be appended to the supplementary report of the General Conference Treasurer.

COMMITTEE ON TRACTS

It was voted that *The Morning Star* office should be the headquarters for our tracts. The tract committee for three years has been Messrs. Mosher, Myers, and Ford, and all tracts proposed for publication were first to be passed upon by this committee. They have issued as follows: —

Home Mission Problems, 10,000; Evangelization of the World in This Generation, 10,000; The Four Days, 5,000; Murphy, 5,000; Pamphlet on Plans of Work for the Denomination, 5,000; The Manual of Missions, 5,000; Monthly Leaflets for Young People and Sunday school, 3,500 a month average; The Foreign Mission Catechism, 6,000; Home Missions, 6,000. Fifty dollars was appropriated for the booklet, "Philanthrophy of Missions."

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Our India missionaries were encouraged to take furloughs during the two heated months.

They are instructed to impress upon the native Christian the responsibility for the support and extension of the Gospel among

their own people. To put more responsibility upon the more efficient helpers and recommend careful search for good Eurasian helpers.

The station plan is recommended.

Theological schools are asked to emphasize missionary instruction.

Mr. and Mrs. Oxrieder were appointed missionaries in 1902, to sail that fall and be placed over Kharagpur.

Voted, to take steps to secure land at Kharagpur.

The India Committee are asked to revise the Oriya New Testament.

Early in the year Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Collet's names were added to the roll, and having secured a certificate of health from a competent physician, they were ordered before the local examining board at Hillsdale and passed a satisfactory examination, and the Board voted by letter to send them this fall if the state of the treasury will allow. Mr. Collet was given Ohio and Indiana, with a recommendation that they take him for their missionary, and he has already raised $1,000 for his outfit and passage.

Milo J. Coldren and wife were returned to India a year ago, they going back alone without their children. On account of extra work his salary was increased while here.

Four hundred dollars were appropriated for Nellie Phillips's salary last year.

One hundred dollars were appropriated to pay for furniture of Eurasian School.

Dr. Burkholder is given liberty to return to India when he thinks best. On account of the exigencies of the field and need of workers to supply the place of those coming home, Dr. and Mrs. Burkholder sailed in the fall of 1902.

In July, 1903, the Board proceeded to make up a roll of candidates for the Foreign Mission field, and Harry S. Myers was selected to have charge of this roll; the roll to consist of such persons as, by their own desire, wish to be considered candidates and are by vote of Conference placed on the roll. It is considered that they are not appointed to the field, but that the Conference Board are satisfied with their present promise of fitness, and wish to lend

encouragement to their preparation, and hope in the near future the way may be open for them to go and for the Board to send them. The name of Mrs. W. H. Babcock of Minneapolis was placed on the roll. The Board decides that ordination is not necessary in the case of Mr. Babcock, as he will probably do Y. M. C. A. work.

Hamlen was voted $800 salary last year, and Maine Young People are asked to take his support.

The Eurasian work is accepted.

It was voted to return Mr. and Mrs. Griffin to India this fall, 1904, if the funds will allow, and to ask New York to adopt them as their missionary.

Mr. Lougher is made secretary and treasurer for India.

Mr. Harry Myers's plan for a Free Baptist missionary library was adopted.

One thousand copies of Dr. Bacheler's life were ordered printed, to be out by July 1st, and Rev. Thos. H. Stacy, Concord, N. H., was secured to write it.

Revised estimate of salaries for native teachers was adopted. Mr. Given will doubtless explain this in his report.

THE JOINT COMMITTEE FOR INDIA

1. The Joint Committee a year ago having recommended the appointment of a joint committee in India similar to the joint committee here at home, the recommendation was endorsed, and the Board appointed M. J. Coldren, A. L. Kennan, and Thos. W. Burkholder as its representatives in the Joint Committee of India.

2. It was also recommended by the Joint Committee and voted that the salary of a single woman be $400 for the first two years; for the thrid, fourth and fifth it be $450; and thereafter $500.

The Board invites suggestions or plans for the better unification of mission work, said suggestions or plans to be referred to the Joint Committee for consideration, and that the Joint Committee be instructed to recommend some such plan for the consideration of General Conference and the Woman's Mission Society at their meeting in 1904.

CLINTON IN AFRICA

One hundred dollars were voted to Clinton in 1901.

Voted, That the Maine young people be recommended to raise $800 for missions, a part of which shall go for the whole support of Mr. Clinton.

This completes the more important business of the Conference Board for the last three years, and is respectfully submitted.

The Secretary's book is open to any one of the delegates for inspection. H. M. FORD.

On motion of Comber of Kansas it was voted to accept the report.

The report of the Treasurer for the year ending June 30, 1904, was presented, and, on motion of Anthony of Maine, was referred to the Finance Committee.

FOREIGN MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

RECEIPTS

Contributions for general fund	.	$9,384 86
" permanent fund	.	75 00
" Bible school fund	.	7 50
" high school fund	.	134 65
" Bible school hall fund	.	2 50
" Bible and tract cause	.	80
" high school interest	.	69 67
" Balasore orphanage	.	33 00
" Balasore station	.	91 35
" Bhimpore station	.	1,309 37
" Chandbali station	.	75 00
" Jellasore station	.	60 00
" Kharagpur station	.	41 86
" Midnapore station	.	126 00
" Eurasian school	.	22 50

Contributions for schools and miscellaneous		2,251 46	
"	outfit and passage . .	1,179 92	
"	George Ager and wife .	42 73	
"	T. W. Burkholder and wife	70 00	
"	M. J. Coldren and wife .	918 09	
"	L. P. Clinton . .	256 32	
"	L. E. Gaunce and work (N. B.)	390 00	
"	G. H. Hamlen and wife .	48 00	
"	A. L. Kennan and wife .	128 62	
"	E. H. Lougher and wife .	201 54	
"	H. R. Murphy and wife .	151 70	
"	J. H. Oxrieder and wife .	488 52	
"	H. M. Phillips . .	112 05	
"	M. R. Phillips . .	200 00	
"	H. E. Wyman and wife	1,107 71	
	Total contributions .		$18,980 72
Bequests for general fund . .		$1,877 20	
"	Bible school fund . .	2,500 05	
"	high school fund . .	25 00	
	Total bequests . .		$4,402 25
Interest on permanent fund . .		339 42	
"	Bible school fund . .	288 50	
"	high school fund . .	595 00	
	Total interest		1,222 92
Bills payable			1,000 00
Cash overdrawn June 30, 1904 . .			3,056 98
	Aggregate . .		$28,662 87

DISBURSEMENTS

Cash overdrawn July 1, 1903		$2,074 88
Annuities	$347 05	
Bible school	400 00	
High school	1,320 00	
Eurasian school	167 50	
Missionaries' services and allowances, India	10,754 08	
Missionaries' services and allowances, Africa	234 65	
Balasore station	920 00	
Balasore orphanage	500 00	
Bhadrak station	193 06	
Bhimpore station	1,160 00	
Central stations	350 00	
Chandbali	360 00	
Metrapore station	260 00	
Midnapore station	560 00	
Schools and miscellaneous	1,305 00	
Outfit and passage	1,243 69	
Bible and tract cause	50 00	
United Society of Young People	632 66	
Interest	26 75	
Bills payable	1,000 00	
		21,784 44
Permanent fund carried to investment acct.	75 00	
Bible school fund " " "	2,507 55	
High school fund " " "	159 65	
		2,742 20
Expense account as follows: —		
Safe deposit box	$10 00	
Bond	8 50	
L. C. Griffin, salary	104 83	
L. C. Griffin, expenses	16 76	
Postage and stationery	91 01	
Printing	276 81	
Clerical help	455 90	
Salary of treasurer	1,035 00	
Expenses of treasurer	62 54	
		$2,061 35
Aggregate		$28,662 87

INVESTED FUNDS

Permanent Fund

. . . . .	375 00	
gages	3,525 00	
estate	2,200 00	
r Little estate	800 00	
to be accounted for . .	2,366 59	
		9,266 59

Bible School Fund

s	1,970 00	
gages	5,600 00	
estate	1,350 00	
to be accounted for . .	2,198 19	
		11,181 19

High School Fund

. . . . .	2,500 00	
s and bonds	2,400 00	
gages	3,550 00	
estate	3,500 00	
to be accounted for . .	4,701 34	
		16,651 34

Henry Newton Fund

to be accounted for . . .		300 00
Total investment funds .		$37,336 12

HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

RECEIPTS

ributions for general fund .		$3,676 44	
"	East St. Louis church .	1 00	
"	Harper's Ferry . .	293 89	
"	Phillips Memorial church .	97 00	
"	Manning Bible School .	1,081 08	
"	20th Cen. Ch. Bldg. fund .	37 44	
"	Unicoi school . .	6,690 83	
	Total contributions .		$11,877 68

Bequests for general fund	1,499 77	
" permanent fund	300 05	
" Manning Bible School	95 00	
		1,894 82
Interest on permanent fund	224 75	
" 20th Cen. Ch. Bldg. fund	317 75	
		542 50
Cash overdrawn June 30, 1904		10,397 77
Aggregate		$24,712 77

DISBURSEMENTS

Cash overdrawn July 1, 1903		4,725 89
Annuities	254 00	
Augusta, Kan.	100 00	
Central Association	225 00	
Cleveland, O., Central	150 00	
East St. Louis, Ill.	200 00	
Elmira Heights, N. Y.	37 50	
Hardwick, Vt.	75 00	
Harper's Ferry	919 57	
Horton, Kan.	120 00	
Houlton, Me.	100 00	
Iowa H. M. Board	25 00	
Jackson, Mich.	300 00	
Manning Bible School	954 00	
Marion, Ill.	75 00	
Melrose Highlands, Mass.	500 38	
Nebraska and No. Kansas agent	100 00	
Phillips Memorial church, R. I.	216 67	
Portsmouth, O.	250 00	
Potter, N. Y.	25 00	
Field secretary	1,237 50	
San Francisco	200 00	
Sioux Falls	200 00	
So. Kansas	25 00	

Falls, N. Y.	$25 00	
hool	8,726 14	
ciety of Young People	632 65	
rings, S. D.	50 00	
, Pa.	37 50	
, Mass.	212 50	
		$15,973 41
1 Cen. Ch. Bldg. fund carried to loan acct.		37 44
oth Cen. Ch. Bldg fund carried to loan acct.		317 75
nt fund carried to loan acct.		300 05
ible		2,000 00
account as follows: —		
l	4 00	
deposit box	10 00	
ing	103 64	
age and stationery	38 70	
cal help	204 10	
. Griffin, salary	45 17	
. Griffin, expenses	7 42	
l secretary, expenses	444 06	
surer, salary	465 00	
surer, expenses	36 14	
		1,358 23
Aggregate		$24,712 77

INVESTED FUNDS

Permanent Fund

d bonds	$3,150 00	
s	1,500 00	
ttle estate	800 00	
ank	1,100 00	
te	3,000 00	
e accounted for	2,609 53	
		12,159 53

Henry Newton Fund

Bond	$100 00	
Cash	300 00	
		$400 00
Total investment funds		$12,559 53

TWENTIETH CENTURY LOAN FUND

UNNAMED FUND

Amount of fund July 1, 1903	$4,624 24	
Contributions	37 44	
Interest	130 25	
		$4,791 93
Loans		
Sacramento, Cal.	200 00	
St. Louis	800 00	
Murphysboro, Ill.	800 00	
St. Regis Falls, N. Y.	300 00	
LaGrange, Ind.	1,100 00	
Rensselaer, Ind.	250 00	
Portsmouth, O.	1,200 00	
Unicoi	100 00	
Cash	41 93	
		4,791 93

WATERLOO FUND

Amount of fund July 1, 1903	5,175 60	
Interest	127 50	
		5,303 10
Loans		
Parr, Ind.	500 00	
Horton, Kan.	125 00	
Pierceton, Ind.	600 00	
Luray, Va.	175 00	
Rensselaer, Ind.	250 00	
Fidelity church, Cleveland	3,500 00	
Cash	153 10	
		5,303 10

ILLINOIS Y. M. FUND

Amount July 1, 1903		$2,000 00
Interest received and paid Illinois Y. M., $60		
Loan		
East St. Louis, Ill.	$1,860 00	
Cash	140 00	
		2,000 00
Total loan funds		12,095 03

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

RECEIPTS

Cash balance July 1, 1903		$1,462 29
Contributions for N. E. students	$1,153 61	
" Hillsdale students	288 50	
" Keuka students	36 15	
" Parker students	71 48	
		1,549 74
Requests for general fund	3,243 27	
" permanent fund	300 05	
" Hillsdale College	47 50	
		3,590 82
Interest E. True fund	96 25	
" Library fund	88 50	
" Henry Newton fund	22 50	
		207 25
Aggregate		6,810 10

DISBURSEMENTS

Bates College for N. E. students	600 00	
" interest from library fund	24 75	
Hillsdale College students	277 70	
" interest from library fund	59 25	
Parker College students	114 21	
Lyndon Institute, interest on note	300 00	
		1,375 91
Permanent fund carried to investment acct.		300 05
Cash balance June 30, 1904		5,134 14
Aggregate		6,810 10

INVESTED FUNDS

Permanent Fund

Mortgage	$1,000 00	
Cash	1,197 01	
		$2,197 01

E. True Fund

Stock and bond	1,375 00	
Cash	376 01	
		1,751 01

Library Fund

Mortgages	$1,150 00	
Cash	639 10	
		$1,789 10

Henry Newton Fund

Mortgage		300 00
		6,037 12

ONE-CENT TAX ACCOUNT

RECEIPTS

Cash on hand July 1, 1903	474 12	
Collected from Y. M's and Associations	598 88	
		1,073 00

DISBURSEMENTS

Life of Dr. Bacheler, on acct.	316 35	
Correspondence school	100 00	
Adv. *Kennebec Journal*	2 00	
Federation of Churches and Christian Workers	25 00	
Executive committee	77 99	
Cash balance June 30, 1904	551 66	
		1,073 00

MINISTERIAL RELIEF FUND

Cash balance July 1, 1903	117 96	
Interest	36 64	
Cash balance June 30, 1904		154 60

ARTHUR GIVEN, *Treasurer.*

The report of the corresponding secretary, Rev. Arthur Given, D. D., was presented, and on motion of Anthony of Maine the same was accepted, and the portions relating to Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Education, the Ministry, and other important subjects, were referred to the appropriate standing committees. The report was as follows: —

REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Foreign Missions.— It is now seventy-one years since our work in India was begun. For many years the results were seemingly small. It was a barren soil for the seed of Truth. We became accustomed to think of discouraging toil and meagre results, and it has been difficult to impress upon our people the fact that the Lord, with our heroic workers, has achieved magnificent results, and that we do him dishonor by belittling our work and our increasing opportunities. Wonders have been accomplished, and what we need now, first of all, is to get a true and full conception of the field, what there is to show for the efforts put forth, and the rapidly-increasing brightness of the prospects.

Many seem to think very little has been done and that the prospect is dubious. Such are inexcusably ignorant of what exists. The number of missionaries, sent from this country, in the field, is not the only measure of success. The influences set in motion, the native agencies, progress geometrically. It is like planting a quantity of seed and each year planting all the crop of the previous year. Our crop of native Christians, of people old and young under Christian teaching and influences, the changed customs and a mosphere are a force for righteousness greater than all the missionaries we may send.

Our great gain is in what our missionaries have done for the people. A recent letter from one of our missionaries states: "We are pressing forward self-support and self-evangelization. We are now in advance of most missions in India on these lines, but I think we are getting into position to take a long step in advance at our next

Yearly Meeting. I do not think we will have to force it either. I expect our native brethren to take it voluntarily."

We were all mourners when we learned of the death of Rev. Thomas W. Burkholder, M. D., which occurred at Balasore, India, November 16, 1903. A patient, conscientious, faithful worker laid down the burden that was too heavy. He did not get the needed rest when on his last furlough, went back in poor physical condition, and in nine months was too tired to hold out any longer. Our loss is beyond computation. His family can only be sustained by the immortal hope.

It is an occasion of sadness that the condition of Dr. Helen M. Phillips is but little, if any, improved. The health of our other missionaries is fairly good.

On the whole, our work in India is very prosperous. We could largely increase our efficiency, even with the present missionary force, if our people would furnish the needed money.

Rev. L. P. Clinton has two buildings in use and reports having twenty-seven boys and three girls in training. He carries on two large farms and is very busy with his industrial and school training. They all work in the morning until school time and after school hours. What writing he does must be done by night. He would like a good, reliable colored man and his wife to assist him. The following letter recently received is assuring: —

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL RECTORY, GRAND BASSA,

June 28, 1904.

DEAR SIR: —

Your letter, under date April 24, 1904, regarding Rev. Lewis P. Clinton, has been received. My opinion about Mr. Clinton is that you have in him a man wide awake to his responsibility. His work cannot now be represented as strikingly successful when it is considered that he has not been at it very long, and that such work in Africa needs years of hard and patient labors before felt results characterize it.

His foundation for greater success is being, I believe, well laid and if he is encouraged you will thank God that you have aided him

I am personally acquainted with him; and more or less when he comes to Buchanan, where I reside, he stays with me.

There are twenty-seven boys and three girls on the station doing fairly well. The work is "alive."

Any other information will be willingly given.

With Christian love,

R. C. COOPER, B. D.

Home Missions.— The appropriations have nearly all been paid. The accounts with Unicoi and Melrose Highlands have been kept by themselves. At the close of the financial year the Unicoi account was overdrawn $7,929.11, and Melrose Highlands $3,632.95. The little church at Melrose has raised during the last year over $1,060. They have secured a young man for pastor and will be able to pay all their current expenses. The undertaking at Unicoi has called for a large expenditure.

Those who object to the purchase of that large property must remember that while some see safety only in caution, conservatism, and the do-what-you-can-pay-for policy, others feel as confident that the safer course, sometimes at least, is to undertake that which will arouse the courage and enthusiasm of those who will respond to an aggressive policy. Both these classes of people are right in what they claim, and the success of an enterprise that depends upon the good-will and voluntary assistance of all kinds of people, requires that consideration be given to both sides. Each has half the truth. We reach the whole truth by combining the extremes. We *must* go forward, but with caution. The mariner *must* take risks, although caution pleads that he stay in port.

An agreement has been entered into to sell the land deeded to us by the Rev. Joseph Taylor, at Milmay, N. J., for $2,400. The purchasers have until April, 1906, to complete payments if they require that length of time.

We have several opportunities to establish strong churches if we can furnish temporary assistance. These in turn will become our helpers in all our benevolent enterprises. May the Lord reveal to us how to get the money.

In accordance with instructions I have secured from the larger part of the State agents brief accounts of their work. These show to some extent the condition of our home field. A few of these reports will be presented at this session by the agents themselves.

Maine.— Rev. S. C. Whitcomb, agent. Since the last General Conference four new churches have been organized, seven houses of worship have been built, and much expended upon repairs. Our churches are gradually securing parsonages and several new ones are reported each year. Our work is old and new. The old farming towns on the rocky hills have a depleted population and declining churches. We have large villages growing up around pulp, paper, and lumber mills; and new, thrifty farming towns in the northern part of the State where the timber has been removed recently from a very fertile soil. These conditions give us many small churches to care for and plenty of work for State agent, and all the evangelistic work we can command. The State agent has a field worker with him who also devotes all his time among the churches. We also employ district or Quarterly Meeting missionary workers temporarily as we are able to secure and sustain them. We report for the year now closing precious and, in some cases, extensive revivals in many of our churches, and there will be a large number of additions by baptism. We are sorely troubled to find enough pastors. Our great need is good men for our pastorless churches.

New Hampshire.— Rev. E. G. Eastman, agent. Been in the field eight months. Supplied pastorless churches every Sunday but one. Preached sixty-five sermons, delivered twenty-four addresses on State work, held thirty-nine conferences with church official boards, conducted twenty-eight gospel services, visited and prayed with eighty families. The churches have shown great appreciation. Pastors have been supplied for twelve churches. Eight churches are pastorless. We need men called of God to lead our churches. We must have a revival of prayer that God shall lay his hand upon young men. Then the churches must give them a living support. The Wentworth Quarterly Meeting has not a single pastor. The people are heroic. The Quarterly Meeting sessions are largely at-

tended; conversions are expected, and they are not disappointed. Our work in this State is a great one. We need courage born of a conviction that we, as Free Baptists, under God, have a mission in New Hampshire and in the world.

Massachusetts and Rhode Island do a good amount of State work through their State boards and secretaries, though they do not have State agents so called.

Ohio Association.— Rev. H. G. Hill entered upon his work as agent the first of last April, and great results were expected. He visited Portsmouth, Sciotoville, Johnstown, and Cleveland. He had begun to introduce a weekly or monthly card system, and in the few weeks of his service had secured over eighty dollars for the work. But to the very great sorrow of all who knew him, in July he went to his reward on high.

Indiana.— We have no State agent in this State, but our State work is organized and is under the direction of an Executive Board. We hire a State evangelist who is employed in keeping up the weaker interests. About $1,500 has been pledged this year for State work. The work is in fairly good condition.

Illinois.— Rev. G. A. Gordon, agent. I have given what time I could to visiting the Quarterly Meetings and churches, especially such as need financial or spiritual assistance, advising pastorless churches and churchless pastors, looking after church debts, dedications, laying corner-stones, talking missions. Many of our best pastors have left for other fields, so that I have trouble to supply pastors for all the churches. The Freedom Quarterly Meeting, which has been independent, has voted to unite with us, bringing five hundred members. Very many churches have had gracious revivals. Our greatest trouble is to get enough pastors and get the churches to support them.

Iowa.— Rev. G. P. McBride, agent. We have helped several churches. Much benefit has come to two or three.

Minnesota Yearly Meeting.— We employed an agent a little over three months during the last year. We have no agent at present.

Nebraska and Northern Kansas.— Rev. J. H. Wolfe, agent.

Began work the first of last January, giving my whole time on a salary of $400. Our motto has been not "how much," but "how well." The pastorless churches have been looked after; in some there have been revivals. Have endeavored to meet with the Quarterly Meetings so as to come in touch with the representative workers. We have aimed at educating our people all along the various denominational lines, keeping before them the larger work. Yet the year shows larger gains numerically and spiritually than any for the last ten years. New church houses, large repairs, new grounds to church and cemetery lots, one new parsonage. We have assisted a few weak churches financially, and with the aid of General Conference have been able to keep the superintendent in the field all the time. Many open doors we could not enter on account of lack of men. Give us more pastors and the West can show a large growth.

Education.— About the usual amount of aid has been furnished to those in preparation for the ministry. Our need of more ministers is almost appalling. All departments of our work and all our agencies should bend their energies, along with prayer to God, towards the supplying of this vital need. Our colleges and seminaries report themselves as follows: —

Bates College.— During the last three years Bates has been making steady and, perhaps it may fairly be said, rapid progress. The number of the students has increased each year, and the entering class for 1904 promises to be larger than any preceding class. Notwithstanding the necessity of annually raising several thousand dollars for current expenses, the general resources of the college are steadily increasing. The last report of the treasurer exhibits a permanent fund of $413,387.97. This sum, however, includes some $64,000 given to endow scholarships for students. Our funds have thus far yielded, upon the average, somewhat more than five per cent. Our receipts from tuition are steadily increasing. But so great have been the increasing demands that but for the generosity of long-tried friends we must have had a large annual deficit. We have, however, by the aid of these friends, been able to report each year a small surplus. It is a primary duty of the friends of the college to increase its endowment fund to at least $1,000,000.

Since the last report to our General Conference, Coram Library has been dedicated and made available for the students. The cost of the building and furnishings was about $54,000. It proves an exceedingly valuable addition to the equipment of the college. We are now erecting a hall for our young women. It is to afford lodgings for sixty, to contain a dining room adequate to the needs of all women students, a gymnasium for their sole use, a large reception room, and in general all the appointments of a well-equipped building for lady students. The hall is to be of brick, on a fine site, and it is hoped that the cost of the building and its furnishings will not exceed $30,000.

Our faculty have been earnest and united. Their number has been increased by several additions, including the long-needed woman professor. The work in all departments commands the respect of the best educators and receives honorable recognition in the graduate schools of our country and of Europe. Within ten years the college has added about $100,000 to its fund; doubled the number of its students, of its faculty, of the volumes of its library, and of the buildings devoted to college purposes.

The number entering the freshman class this year will probably be about one hundred and twenty, and the class will include members from all the New England States and from Canada. The progress in scholarship and scholarly purpose and ideals has kept pace with the growth of material resources. Within the last three years Bates has still further added to her reputation by winning the honors in every one of the five intercollegiate debates in which she has participated. In the twelve intercollegiate debates since these contests were instituted in 1896, she has triumphed eleven times. It is believed that this record has no parallel in the history of colleges.

The moral and Christian life of the college has, on the whole, been very encouraging. Students have been converted each year. Each class has kept up its weekly prayer meeting faithfully and efficiently. The Christian Associations have been well sustained and there has been a constant interest in the study of the Bible. A large number of the students voluntarily engage in Bible study in

addition to that required in their regular work. The attendance at the college classes in our Sunday school has been large and the interest well sustained.

Cobb Divinity School.— The number of students in all departments for the last three successive years has been twenty-eight, thirty, twenty-five. Too few of these have come from our homes and churches. One-fourth of them have come from other denominations, which fact may show that these students prefer the work of our school to that of their own seminaries. Churches look to the school for pastors. Ministers are constantly finishing their earthly careers. At our last General Conference sixty-seven deaths of Free Baptist ministers were reported for the previous three years. Our schools are not keeping up the supply. We invite the careful and prayerful attention of the Conference to the need of ministers and the obligation of supporting our divinity schools.

Hillsdale College.— This is the oldest college in Michigan. It has a large body of alumni who are successful and influential, and its students come into an atmosphere created by the honorable traditions of half a century. It has always kept the expense of college residence so low that a liberal education might be within reach of any capable person who wanted it. Labor has always been respected in the college community. For half a century the "aristocracy" of the college has been composed very largely of young men and women of high character and studious lives who have spent their spare hours in labor for their own support.

The college offers four years of preparatory and four years of college work leading to the usual Bachelor degrees. Biological, chemical, and physical laboratories are well supplied with apparatus. The museum has many and valuable specimens. The library has about 12,000 volumes. A thorough and thriving department of music offers instrumental and vocal instruction, choral training, and theoretical subjects, for very moderate charges. A department of oratory gives instruction in the science and technique of expression. Free-hand and mechanical drawing and work in water colors are taught. A department of art is to have especial emphasis under the newly-elected principal.

There are five student literary societies, with their own beautiful alls and valuable property. A free choral society affords weekly rill and furnishes music for the college church and public concerts. he Young Men's Christian Association and the Young Women's hristian Association, affiliated with the State and national organtations, hold joint and separate weekly meetings and conduct their wn courses in the study of the Bible, missions, and the like, supplementary to the instruction in the regular courses.

The gymnasium was the first separate building for its purposes rected in Michigan. East Hall is now entirely equipped as a first-lass dormitory for women. Hard-wood floors have been laid in the ymnasium, in the president's room, and in a portion of the corriors of East Hall.

The Theological School, one of the vital forces of the college rom an early day, has trained hundreds of men and women for the inistry, home and foreign missions, and other agencies in the sevral denominations.

Kenka College.— The college year which closed on the 22nd of une was marked by progress, hard work, good cheer, high hope, nd stalwart courage. The number of college students was somehat larger than any year before, and their ambition, warm satisaction with the privileges enjoyed and the work accomplished, and heir evident pleasure in being connected with a young college hav-ng an assured future, were most gratifying. The entire enrollment n the college and preparatory departments was 174; thirty-eight of whom were in the regular college course. The graduating class rom the preparatory department, together with candidates from ther schools, promises a much larger freshman class for the next ollege year than has heretofore entered.

The receipts from tuition and endowment have been considerbly increased, and obligations to the faculty and creditors generlly have been promptly met. Some progress has been made in arrying out the purpose of the Ball International Union, to inrease the endowment to the amount of $100,000. Contributions of oney and of books to the library have been generous.

The need of a new building for the library and for the science

department has become very pressing, and prayer is continually offered that some benevolent person, or persons, shall be moved to erect such a building as is required.

A water plant has been established, by which an abundance of water may be pumped from the lake to a stand-pipe on high ground, to supply all wants of the college and residents in the college settlement.

The ladies connected with the Ball International Union have contributed generously towards improving and beautifying the college campus. Ball Bros. of Muncie, Ind., have decided to add to their contributions to the college the erection of a residence for the occupation of the president. This residence is to be a memorial offering, expressive of respect and love for a very noble woman, Lucina Ball, the lamented sister of the Ball brothers, who was deeply interested fn the college, and just before her death had formed plans for the erection of a fine residence, and for other significant service for the college.

Plans have been studied and well matured for establishing an industrial plant in connection with the college for the purpose of furnishing regular employment to students who find it necessary to earn a considerable portion of their expenses in order to take a college course. Quite extensive facilities for such work are now found on the park and in the surrounding vineyards, but more extensive and more regular facilities are demanded, and the trustees are fully determined to provide them.

The religious interest in the college is warm and effective. Christian students who come to us grow in grace and in intelligent devotion to the cause of Christ, and such as have not heretofore entered the Christian life are led and encouraged to do so. The atmosphere is strongly, generously, and cheerfully Christian, and the entire influence which prevails broadens, elevates, and strengthens Christian character and inspires in students a high ambition to be of service to humanity.

The earnest desire of the president, who has presided over the college many years, to have a vigorous and competent young man secured for his successor, has been gratified. Rev. John Chester

Ball, a relative of his, a graduate from Oberlin College, a broad-minded and devout Christian gentleman, scholarly and forceful, has been secured and is to enter upon the service of president at the opening of the next college year. This election guarantees that the college shall continue to grow and work on the same lines which have thus far characterized it, thoroughly loyal to the Christian principles cherished by its founders, and true to the high purposes characteristic of the Central Association, which has from the beginning fostered and supported it.

Upon the whole, the life of the college is emphatically healthy. More money is needed on endowment, more buildings are required for the accommodation of students, and more facilities for students to work their way are wanted. Lively hopes are cherished that these wants will be supplied, that the attendance of students will steadily increase, and that the number of Christian men and women who shall be graduated and sent out into the world as leaders in all lines of industry and creative activity, shall be mutiplied.

Parker College.— The prospect for an increase in number of students at Parker College is happily bright. The old students, and especially those of last year, are doing valiantly in personally urging their young friends and acquaintances to enter Parker this fall. Such loyalty bespeaks a growth that shall be steady, even if not phenomenal. A number of former students who dropped out one year ago will return for work this fall. The remaining month before fall opening will see a substantial increase in new students secured, judging from the requests coming in from pastors and students asking for a visit from the president to their respective places.

We have nothing flattering to report by way of increase in funds. Our income barely meets expenses, special solicitation being necessary for that purpose. We have some good lines out, however, that promise substantial increase in the near future.

In the line of equipment, we are glad to report a considerable increase during the past year, particularly in library and scientific departments. The library has been increased by one thousand volumes of special reference value. The coming year will see special increase in apparatus for the department of physical and astronom-

ical science. Our college building has been put in neat repair during the summer, at the expense of the board of trustees. Special efforts are to be made soon towards the erection of a gymnasium.

The religious life of the college has been the very best during the year. During the winter every student in the college department was converted, and all but one in other departments. We ask all Free Baptists to pray for us.

Rio Grande College.—We had a year of average prosperity in 1903–04. One hundred and two students. One graduate collegiate course; four preparatory course; three English and normal course. Three ministerial students: one of the Free Baptist denomination; one of the Christian order; one of the United Brethren.

Received $76 in cash donations and several valuable gifts of books and scientific specimens.

The year, I think, was above the average in good order, hard study, and religious life and activity. Pray for us.

Storer College.— Our endowment is growing slowly. If we could receive twice as much from the denomination as such our work could be more nearly kept abreast of the times.

The time is at hand when we very much need a heating system. Last year we barely escaped a water famine. We have practically no fire protection — a condition of affairs in a boarding-school which approaches criminal negligence. I have little faith that the town of Harper's Ferry will soon put in a water works system — it is too poor. If we have adequate fire protection, we must establish it ourselves. With no lavatory or bath or water accommodations this need is most pressing.

Our school is now a boarding-school. Of course we admit day students. The attendance the past three years has averaged about 125. The new Industrial building is practically completed. We need $1,000 with which to purchase equipment for it.

Our faculty is larger than ever before, numbering twelve. With the new departments well started and new work well organized the prospects for the future are encouraging.

Maine Central Institute.— We had a very prosperous year. A

new dormitory for girls was built in the summer of 1903. This has helped us much in our location and oversight of the students. It has made the expenses to the student somewhat less. The boys have taken their meals in the dining-room on the club plan for about two dollars per week.

The attendance was much larger than for several years. An average attendance of thirty more than the year preceding. We hope soon to get back to the old record of attendance. The whole number attending the school during the year was 163.

The graduating class numbered twenty-one, most of whom will take further study either in college, normal, or business school. Some of them, we hope, will be preachers of the gospel of Christ after their preparation seems sufficient.

The standard of scholarship has been raised very much in this last four years. We hope to do work now that will equal that of any other similar fitting school in the country.

Mr. Hull has been working hard as he could to get the endowment fund raised to $50,000. He has made some progress during the year. He needs the hearty support of every Free Baptist in the land. There is no place where money counts more for righteousness than where placed at the disposal of the trustees of Maine Central Institute.

Between forty and fifty students united with the church last year, mostly by baptism. The conversion of these students was largely gained through the personal efforts of their fellow-students. The pastor and his wife have done much to assist the students in religious work. There is no better Christian spirit in any school in the East or West. We think we now have quite a number of young men who are thinking of the ministry for a life work. The school has not for many years taken its opportunity to lead men into this line of work. We expect to do much better in the future.

In scholarship and athletics our school stands beside the best fitting schools in the State. When we can have a good gymnasium and a large dormitory for boys, we shall be ready to do the work God meant Maine Central Institute to do in this part of Zion.

New Hampton Literary Institution and Commercial College.— We have had an average of about 140 students. Four courses of study. Eleven teachers. Endowment invested $40,000. About $20,000 pledged towards a building fund. We have commodious buildings, a fine library, large, well-equipped reading room, good museum, broad athletic field. We teach telegraphy, stenography, penmanship, elocution, music, drawing. We have three literary societies, excellent social and religious privileges, fine scenery, pure air and water, low expenses.

Lyndon Institute.— This is a college preparatory school of high grade. We have ten acres of ground, buildings and equipment representing an outlay of $40,000, productive endowment of $25,000. This school fits for all New England colleges; the location is healthful, the tone is highly moral and scholastic. The faculty of eight teachers are trained specialists. School year opens Sept. 5, with registration of one hundred.

Manning Bible School.— This school was opened April 9, 1900, with Rev. Jared Maurice Arter, A. M., principal. There are theological, normal, and vocal music departments. There are good library and reading room facilities. The aim of the school is to furnish a practical education to the prospective colored minister, so that he can preach and care for a church intelligently. Tuition and text-books are free. Students are required to do missionary work. A new dormitory for the students is very much needed.

Unicoi School.— No report has been received by the secretary, but the enterprise will be fully reported by the special committee appointed by the Conference Board.

Bible School, India. — Since the last General Conference eight have been graduated from the Bible School One of these has died, the others are doing faithful and efficient service for the Lord, and may we not believe that one is also ? There are this year in school nine, while for lack of funds other promising candidates were refused admission. The teaching staff remains the same as three years ago, with the exception of Mr. K. M. Bose, who devotes a part of his time to teaching in the Bible School. An English course has been added, with New Testament Greek and other subjects

eliminated, so that it is now entirely theological. The requirements for admission have been raised this year. I need not say anything as to the importance of the Bible School in the scheme of our mission work. The school needs more endowment. The building must be completed at a cost of about $500. The walls are all up and roof on and plastered inside, but the outside of the building must be plastered or the walls will deteriorate, and a building into which has been put several thousand dollars will become worthless. We also need at least two new dormitories, costing about $100 each.

High School, India.— Number of teachers, eleven. Seven of these are Christians and four Hindus. The number in the school is 118. Of these eighty-two are Christians, thirty-five Hindus, and one Mohammedan. The percentages of promotions are fifty-seven. The school is doing a good work and is helping to mould the community. One of the former teachers, Babu Bhadur Lal Shah, is now in Rhode Island learning the tanning industry. He intends to return and establish a business in the production and handling of leather. He needs our sympathy and help. We need Christian business men in India.

A FEW ESSENTIALS

1. We cannot overrate the importance of looking after, instructing, and directing the children. They must also be utilized in such service as they can render. Men and women eminent as spiritual leaders receive their first distinct impressions and their life-long impulse when young.

2. We must pray and work systematically that our bright young people, called of God, shall choose the way of the Spirit's leading. There have been too many voices calling our boys away from their highest and best life-work. It is sad but true that many have been influenced by Christian parents and other friends, from worldly considerations, to turn away from a life of service for others, in the search for worldly gain or position. The first need to be met in order that we may have more ministers is that Christian people shall have higher ideals of what it is to leave all for Christ.

3. In some way, or in all ways, we must impress upon our people the exalted privilege of serving the Lord with their money.

They are abundantly able to sustain all our benevolent undertakings. Agencies must be increased, whereby they shall learn of the marvelous triumphs of the gospel and be given an opportunity to help in the grandest and most successful enterprise of the ages.

4. We are weak without God. With God all things are possible. We must have human organization, but all our strength and help must come from him. We are fellow-workers with him. We must plan and work, but we must pray as though all depended, as it mostly does, upon his working with us.

Respectfully submitted,

ARTHUR GIVEN, *Secretary.*

The report of the Field Secretary, Rev. H. M. Ford, D. D., of Michigan, was presented, and on motion of Fulton of Ohio was accepted, and the matters contained therein were referred to the appropriate standing committees. The report was as follows: —

REPORT OF THE FIELD SECRETARY, 1901–1904

Since we met at Harper's Ferry in September, 1901, I have journeyed directly in the interests of the General Conference 43,290 miles; have attended twenty-two yearly meetings and associations, seventeen quarterly meetings, 144 churches; have visited all our colleges and schools, having made fifteen visits to our seats of learning, to Unicoi three times, Cairo five times, Winnebago two, Keuka once, New Hampton once, Bates once, Maine Central Institute once, Rio Grande once, and Harper's Ferry twice. Have held four institutes; have attended seven sessions of the Executive Committee, three sessions of the General Conference Board; made 302 addresses, written 2,250 letters, held fifteen rallies; visited the General Baptist body twice, Nova Scotia twice, have been in New England three times, Shenandoah mission twice, Cairo mission five times, the mountaineers three times, the West and Northwest three times, the central portions of the denomination often. Have worked within the bounds of twenty-one Yearly Meetings, having been in

some of them several times; and have raised this last year for Foreign, Home, and Education $1,889.34, and for the three years for Foreign, Home, and Education and Loan Fund and church debts $21,866.34. There are a great many things not counted, such as committee work, ordinations, councils, private consultation, the giving out of general information, hunting up men for churches, hunting up missionaries and college students.

If we should strike the average of six days in the week, then for 960 working days I have travelled an average of forty-five miles a day, given an address every three days, written two and one-half letters every day, raised for our benevolences $5.05 every day, and including church debts $24.60 every day. But figures sometimes sound large and sometimes they sound small, and I simply use them because some people want figures and go by figures, but if we depend too much upon figures, the average secretary and the average pastor will make a poor showing, since the best and most valuable part of their work they can't make show up in any manipulation of the nine digits. There seems to have been plenty to do and more than any one man could do. Every church and pastor wants light and counsel on many questions and some help often about his own difficulties. One day is the same as another; it is giving information, attempting to adjust church troubles (I use the word attempt), giving legal and financial advice, trying to hold up and talk up all our interests, keeping things stirred up, filled up and running over, keeping everybody cheered up and awake to our denominational interests; dodging in here and there, personally and by correspondence, keeping an eye on the whole field, watching out for foxes that destroy the vines and weasels that carry off our chickens; and in every place I go to touching upon our interests, missions at home, missions abroad, our colleges, our publications, our ministry, our denominational plans, such as the home mission days, the local church committees, the apportionment, appropriations, twentieth century loan fund, the deeding of church property, the young people and the unification of our work, i. e., union instead of State rights, trying to inspire the right denominational sentiment and pushing hard sometimes when people don't like it, and the raising of money.

It is a grind on the secretary and sometimes a worse grind on the people, and one not in love with it would soon prefer something easier. The daily expense, aside from salary, is about ninety cents. In 1902 it was eighty-three cents, in 1903 it was eighty-nine cents, and in 1904 it was ninety cents.

I have thus, very much to my own distaste, arrayed before you the different kinds of work I have had to do. I trust it does not seem flamboyant. I have done so because some people are asking, as they have a perfect right to, "What is our secretary up to, and how is he spending his time, and what are we getting back for the expense?" This is the answer and the only answer I can bring.

It has been a serious question whether the secretary is an envoy of the Board, going out to work up the general interest only and thus representing the Board and its larger interests, or whether he is appointed by the Board to be a public servant of the churches, to go here and there, to be used wherever there is a need. Some have taken the former view and some the latter, and many, and I think rightly, take the view that he is first perhaps the servant of the Board, especially appointed to push the general work, but partly the servant of the whole to meet local needs wherever and whenever he can. At least pending some action of the Board or Conference in defining his duties I have been acting for eleven years in this twofold capacity.

As the representative of the General Conference I have been always cheerfully welcomed and most courteously treated by our people wherever I have gone, having been invited to a seat and a free discussion on the floor of all assemblies, and having been cheerfully given a place on the program, and never having been denied any request I have asked on behalf of the denomination, save once, and that not from opposition but because it was impossible to have it granted. All this indicates, it seems to me, a well-established harmony and a hearty acquiescence in all our plans, and I never hear any biting criticisms of our methods, our General Conference law, and never have discovered any spirit of rebellion toward our Board or its authority and work. Some things have been misunderstood, but when explained have been approved.

NOVA SCOTIA

I consider the Nova Scotia Free Baptists a very felicitous, helpful, and happy addition to our denominational forces. They number about 6,000 membership, forty-two churches all told, mainly in the western part of Nova Scotia. The location of these churches is excellent, being planted generally in the midst of pretty fishing villages that skirt the coast. The villages are quaint, with their crooked streets; the houses are well built and neatly painted. In fact, Nova Scotians are the tidiest people I ever saw. The sun, moon and sky, the landscape, the houses and the people themselves, together with their behavior, look as though they had been scoured with sapolio. The churches are neat and well built; the congregations are devout and earnest; everybody has a hymn book and everybody sings the good old hymns our fathers sang with a heartiness and fervor that lend a tremendous inspiration to the service and the preacher.

In my second visit there this summer, one Monday night at Kempville, the church was packed with people, mostly bearded men, who came in with an elastic tread and an expectant air and a quiet but ominous enthusiasm that portended a blessing that none who were there will forget for a long time. When I went there a year ago, I was told that I would feel strange in a strange land, but upon landing the first man I met wanted to sell me a gold mine. I was thus made to feel at once that I was in my own clime and among my own kindred. I had so good a time in Nova Scotia among the churches that I was homesick to go back again this summer; in fact, there were several things to be done to keep in touch with this new additional force, to find some young men for the ministry in a country that had furnished us so many ministers of the very best quality, and hunt up a possible candidate for the foreign field. This last visit was sadly interrupted by incessant rain and cold.

There is a pathetic and melancholy side to Nova Scotia. In these hundreds of fishing villages there is seldom a fisherman's home that does not mourn some member of the family who sleeps at the bottom of the sea somewhere around that coast. We are glad to wel-

pensive ocean voyage and
Nova Scotia. You will never

Our work at Unicoi does no
work we are called to do in
braced by Free Baptist church
100 miles, embracing 7,000 r
operations. Two associations,
Association, are already memb
three others will ask to come i
border line between Tennessee

Unicoi touches the borders o
north, for, ten miles away the
Southern Railroad, runs throug
through Johnson City, Monticel
which, these mountaineers abou
mountain fastnesses and have c
shines beyond. From Johnson
miles of railroad, used mostly to
the mountain-sides of this land
seeing more money since he has
is enjoying more whiskey, sad to s
tunity, though to

fathers were: their fathers got along some way, and if they get along as their fathers did what more is needed and why fret? They are stirred by few ambitions, they are content to know little because there is so little of the great world they know; and yet they are hospitable, religious, social, virtuous, their blood is pure, they are patriotic and are teachable. However the people in these regions do not move fast, it takes time for ideas to soak in. Transportation of ideas is like the transportation of commerce, they go at the ox-team and mule-team rate, and any progress must be the work of time. Brother Lucas is fearful that northern people will get discouraged before the school makes any showing, for the making of the school is not the work of one year or two years; it is the work of ten or twenty years. We have not only to make a school, we must at the same time create a desire for a school and a thirst for education, missionary work pure and simple.

The school consists of 700 acres of land, the hotel and five or six other buildings. Professor Lucas is agent to sell the land and is our representative head at Unicoi. He has found no time to teach. The care of the property has really needed his undivided attention, and will for another year until more of the land is sold and legal matters are straightened out. The denomination has one-third the products of the soil, and the principal of the school is paid from this source of revenue, and if there is not enough he is to have twenty per cent. of the sale of lands if necessary. It may not be necessary. The hotel building needs between one and two hundred dollars for repairs. The sale of products from the land amounted to $725.36 last year for the school. There will be fully as much this year, if not more. On October 16, money must be forthcoming to make the last payment on the mortgage debt. We have hunted high and low, braved blizzards and waded through seas of snow to secure the money, but we have not secured it yet; we must find it somewhere, may the Lord direct us to the right man or woman. This mortgage is held by parties not interested in us and who will not care to accommodate us in the matter of time.

The free school, which lasts from four to six months, is taught under the supervision of J. W. Lucas, our principal, and in conjunction with Unicoi, and last year we had about seventy students.

CAIRO

Down in the Mississippi valley (I would like to call your attention to the map) are 176 churches. Within the sphere of our influence are between two and three million colored people,—certainly a great field. There is a wave of irreligion and worldliness now sweeping over the colored people of the South ; there are scarcely any conversions, church attendance is not so great, religious interest is at an ebb. A lack of religious consciousness on the part of the colored people will be most disastrous. Religion has been the one thing that has held them at all. If this gives way it is uncertain just how great and wide-spreading the disaster may be, and thus Providence has given us a large opportunity to help these people, and as our fathers left them as a kind of legacy to us, we must take up the burden with all the enthusiasm possible. Together with this spirit of irreligion there is the widening gap all the time between the two races and everything points ahead to things we dare not think about.

This whole Cairo mission is made conspicuous by the labors and sacrifices of Father Manning, saint and hero. We have had a few in recent years more worthy to wear the diadem of honor for heroic deeds or glorious achievements. We have one duty yet to do, namely, to make a roll of the few immortals we have had among us. Let Father Manning's name be written down as one of the first.

One of the most pathetic stories I have heard recently was told of the institute of Cairo by Rev. Mr. McMinn, who said he once went with Father Manning, near the close of his life, to hold a meeting, and during one of the sessions as Brother McMinn closed his prayer, Father Manning wept aloud and for a few minutes seemed to be beyond control; he then stated that he had toiled so many years alone, and had seemed to carry the whole burden so long, that when one of his white brethren accompanied him and to pray for him, he seemed overcome.

Cairo is the center of this region. Here we have our school and here we have held nine consecutive institutes. These institutes take on a little more character and power each year, and this year we had thirty-five ministers from five different States, all pas-

tors but one or two. Professor Wilson of the public schools of Cairo told me, unsolicited, that these institutes and the school together had a remarkable effect upon the colored churches and ministers of that section. In the nine years that we have been down there we have seen a great improvement in the ministers, in the churches, the homes, and the children. The ministers are more earnest, more stable, more manly, possessed of better ideas about their work. No doubt the school, which closed its fourth year this June, has had much to do in bringing about this state of things. The school has been chartered since the last General Conference, the building has been remodeled, painted, and put in good repair, at no expense to the Board; we have a number of hundred books in the library; Professor and Mrs. Arter are the teachers, and for two years the women's board has contributed $100 a year.

The class which went out after a three years' course last year have worked enthusiastically for the school. The churches in Cairo have stood by grandly and have furnished many entertainments to give financial help. There are no debts incurred. A dormitory is seriously needed, and some money has been raised for this, but we need $2,000 more. This school is looking for some Moses to lead it out of the wilderness.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING

While speaking of various sections I want to call attention to Central Illinois Yearly Meeting because religious experience is emphasized there. I always expect and anticipate a spiritual feast when I attend that yearly meeting and am never disappointed. The brethren not only have religion; they enjoy it. Religion is something more than a duty, it is a glorious privilege; not only a service, it is a possession. These yearly meeting sessions are always held on Nebo, and Caanan's fair and happy land is in full view, and only Jordan rolls between. The waving fields and nodding palm groves invite us, and the desire to go over at once and possess the land takes possession of us. I never in the world want to go to heaven so badly as when I am in a Southern Illinois yearly meeting. The testimonies they give, the hymns that seem to float

to us from across the river from choirs celestial and in which the brethren join, make it a memorable occasion, and the glory of it lingers in the mind for weeks. This is a notable yearly meeting in another respect: it has raised up a large number of young men for the ministry, and, bidding them God speed, has sent them into many western States, where they are faithfully serving God.

THE WEST

Just where the West begins would be difficult to tell, and precisely where it ends is equally difficult. Ohio and Michigan were "away out West" not many years ago, but when Kansas and Nebraska people say to me, "You *eastern* people don't quite," etc., I have some misgivings about the theory of "public consciousness." But then, the West itself is continually going west. For the present let us agree upon a line running through Chicago, north and south, as a boundary between the East and the West. The prairie begins here, and stretches westward one thousand miles before the Rocky Mountains are reached, and stretches fifteen hundred miles the other way, the bed of a vast prehistoric inland sea. And then too, the people beyond Chicago are a little different. The breadth and freedom of these vast plains give a corresponding freedom and breadth to the mind, a contempt for the purely fastidious and conventional, a restlessness and independence, as if to say: "Never mind who my ancestors were. I'm here myself, and shall go straight for the thing to be done. I don't care so much for the way I do it, only so it is effectual and honest." The people of the West are interesting. Royalty sits in the parlor in its shirt-sleeves, and entertains plainly but heartily; or leans against a barbed-wire fence, out in some vast expanse, and contemplates as gorgeous a sunrise as ever lit up a Sahara desert, while the nostrils are being dilated by the most ravishing ozone in all creation, and the very sod is yielding a perfume that puts all the spices of Arabia into the background. The whole vast and sunlit domain is yours in which to come and go; but keep out of the way of the plow, or you may get under the furrow. You are your own guardian and protector here. Is it any wonder that people who "go West to grow up with

the country" never want to come back, except to stay about two days, when they are seized with an awful homesickness to get back to the open prairie?

Our work as a denomination is carried on between longitude eighty-seven and one hundred degrees, or between Chicago and a line running north and south through middle Kansas and Nebraska, and from Minnesota to New Orleans, with the exception that on the Pacific coast we have a church in San Francisco, one in Oakland, one in Sacramento, and one in Walla Walla, Washington.

Within this western territory above described we have Parker College, the Manning Bible School, twenty-five Yearly Meetings, seventy-four Quarterly Meetings, 485 churches, 470 ordained ministers, and 22,572 church members, who gave last year, all told, $4,329.51 to missions. This makes an average of forty-six and one-half members to each church and with an average of $9 for missions. The average salary paid to its pastors is considerably inside of $400, and not over one-tenth of the churches have parsonages. These churches are scattered over a vast territory, there being one church for every 1,237 square miles of territory. One minister out there said he "felt like a lone star in stellar space"; but another expressed himself less poetically but more picturesquely by saying he "felt like a lone bull-frog in the middle of Lake Erie." This feeling of loneliness and isolation sometimes becomes almost intolerable, and drives some of our ministers back east, but the majority stand at their post.

The General Conference has helped twenty churches in Illinois, six in Wisconsin, eight in Iowa, three in Minnesota, six in Nebraska, one in Louisiana, one in Missouri, three in South Dakota, three in California, one in Washington, six in Kansas; total, fifty-eight. It is assisting ten churches now in this territory, besides giving Iowa $100, Kansas and Nebraska agent $100, and the Manning Bible School several hundred dollars. Some of our best churches in the West have been helped onto their feet and sustained by Home Mission funds.

The whole problem in the West is a very serious one with us. Great changes are taking place, removals are constant and draining,

ministers are poorly paid, the masses are not greatly interested in religious things, and yet a number of successful revivals have been held. Brother Wolfe, agent for Kansas and Nebraska, is a live man, and is just beginning his agency work. McBride of Iowa is a very practical man, and is helping many churches. Willisford has made nearly $1,000 worth of improvements at Lincoln, and all paid for. Miss Willimela Marks, away on the western confines of our work in Nebraska, is an interesting young woman, whose life, ability, and work the Woman's Board would do well to inquire into. She is a grand-niece of David Marks, and has much of her great-uncle's pulpit gift. She is more than an ordinarily gifted young woman.

Finally, how to harness up religious interest with the tremendous commercial interests of the West is a problem. Another is how to sustain an adequate and progressive ministry, and finally how to make up for the annual losses in the churches by removals and by death. If these three questions can be solved we have a large future in the West.

CENTRAL SECTION

This includes Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, New York, and Pennsylvania. State Agent Van Wormer is here to speak for Michigan, and it will be only necessary for me to say, "I wish we had an agent for every State with as clear a head." The churches in Michigan have all been well supplied with pastors, the work has been aggressive during the last three years, churches have been built, and the last three associations have been excellent. Indiana has organized and built several new churches during the last three years and has maintained an agent, an evangelist, and the work has been encouraging and active along all lines.

Ohio was entering upon aggressive work under H. G. Hill, a man of great vigor and aggressiveness, when death suddenly came to put an end to his work.

Central Association will be spoken for by Agent Space. I only need to say, not wishing to anticipate him, that we are all encouraged at the color the work has been taking on the last three years. Brother Aldrich has largely furnished the financial backing. Brother Space

as agent has worked hard and efficiently as the executive officer. Revivals, we understand, have been numerous under Mrs. McLatchey, with many added to the church, and the Central Association has taken on the support of Mr. and Mrs. Griffin. Keuka College will be treated in another place. Never in our history has the outlook for our colleges been brighter; notwithstanding the influences that have swept so many young men into university life, our colleges are holding well on their way, conservatively and steadily. Parker, under President Van Aken, has had the best year of its existence. There has been an increase of endowment and students, and material improvements about the college, and a better feeling prevails among its constituents.

Hillsdale, well, it is here, look at it for yourself, you can study it at close hand. It can doubtless be improved, and we are glad to say it is improving every day. The outlook is bright, and all its friends have unqualified faith in its future.

Keuka, New York, has had a long night of struggle, but the day is fast coming on and the sun is now shining. There is more money, more students, and more friends.

Bates College speaks for itself. It has been winning all the debates in the East for the last few years, and so many lady students applied for admission that some of them had to be turned away. There is a new library building and an increased endowment since the last General Conference.

Maine Central Institute is better off by $36,000 and in possession of a splendid new dormitory for girls.

There is New Hampton and Rio Grande; and Storer, which is putting up a new industrial building and has the money all contributed to do it, and has increased donations from the State Legislature; and Unicoi is a new creation entirely since 1901.

Last fall a decrepit old man in Vermont put to me this question: "The Free Will Baptists are kind o' peterin' out, ain't they? They ain't doin' much, be they?" and straightening up I replied, "During the last four years they have founded a school in Tennessee for the mountaineers, they have founded a school at Cairo to educate colored ministers, they have established an African mission, they

have established a twentieth century loan fund and have $12,000 in the treasury, they have established the Eurasian school at Balasore, have organized the English work at Kharagpur, have created the Providence dispensary; we have established the industrial department at Storer and new buildings, added endowment, and new teachers increase the efficiency of our colleges. This isn't peterin' out, this is winning out." And here would it not be proper to suggest that there is a limit somewhere to production. Have we not about enough on our hands to take care of without feeling that we must get some new enterprise born at this General Conference? We have now about all the children we can feed and clothe, and feed and make grow, and some of those we have look as if they could eat more if they had it.

OUR CITY MISSIONS

If any one should be asked to name our city missions, he would doubtless look surprised and immediately answer that we hadn't any, but afterwards he would remember that we had San Francisco, Sacramento, Chicago, Lincoln, East St. Louis, Cleveland, Worcester, Somerville, Lawrence and Lynn, Lowell and Waterville, Second Buffalo, Brockton and Whitman, Jackson and Portsmouth, Philadelphia and Baltimore, Janesville, Sioux Falls, Hagarstown and Melrose. I cannot speak of all these, but let me speak of Lincoln, Neb., as possessing one feature common to all our city missions. The tenacity with which some churches hold on to existence is worthy of note. Here is a church in Lincoln which some feeble souls have prophetically buried and mourned as dead many times, yet amid all the certain and conclusive arguments for showing beyond any doubt why it should have died years ago, it still lives on, and so far as I can see will continue to live on to the end of time, to the utter consternation and disgust of those wise prophets who put it out of its existence so many years ago and have continued to do so every year since. This year, last year, and year before last it walked without a denominational crutch, a thing which it had not done before since it was an infant.

Brother Willisford, the pastor, with his eye fixed on the peren-

nial and everlasting future, wrote me a letter a few months ago saying that Lincoln must have a new meeting-house, and coolly asked if the General Conference would lay down some hard cash for it. For one I felt that such a colossal contempt for difficulties, coupled with such a heroic faith that this could be done, was worthy of some encouragement. Unable to keep pace with such strident faith as this, I shouted ahead while he was still in sight that the denomination would give him anything he wanted, "being it was him." This is the spirit and history of most of our city missions. It is remarkable how many times they can stand it to die and be buried, but the trouble is they don't stay buried. You may bury them well to-day, but to-morrow you will find the grave empty and they away doing business at the old stand.

Some of these city missions are hopeful and growing, and some have a name to live. Some are doomed on account of physical conditions which nobody can remedy, and some would live with a little money and the right kind of men to push.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

I am not here to discuss or report the Young People's work but to say a single word from the denominational view-point. First, we may congratulate ourselves that a man as efficient as Secretary Myers is at the head of this Young People's work. He is a hard worker, deserves much credit for executive efficiency, devotion to duty and loyalty to the denomination; second, we feel that we must give more attention to the young people, more and more we should voice the sentiment of the old hymn, "Youth is the time to serve the Lord, the time to insure the great reward." We must move with this movement, which will doubtless make great strides in the next twenty years, for the Spirit of God is on the young people, calling them to salvation and to service. More and more I am convinced of what my old pastor said to me when I was ordained and ready to go to my first church: "Labor for the young, old folks will die as they have lived." I have never forgotten it. Salvation for the young people and salvation by the young people, is a good motto.

Maine has 229 churches, 184 churche
year; Massachusetts has eighteen ch
no members last year; Rhode Island
twenty-three added no members la
churches, and seventy added no mem
nois sixty-four churches, and thirty-f
year; Minnesota has thirty-two chur
no members last year.

If a reason should be sought, every
ent one. Some would say it is the w
critical atmosphere we breathe nowad
the fault of churches and ministers
lack vital piety. But whatever it is, i
revival, with its old-fashioned method
to? that it has largely lost its power t
conversion? Is it not true that more
depend on personal work? that he is
than with the old, and that conversio
young? No doubt there are notable
true of the denomination as a whole a
well. This should claim our very se
are probably fully equal to those of o
considered, nevertheless it ought to gi

last trouble, it would go far in curing the first one. I confess that I have not carefully compared statistics, yet I am just as certain that salaries of ministers west of the Hudson are twenty-five or thirty per cent lower than they were fifteen years ago, while the demands upon life have increased at least twenty-five per cent. The cost of living will undoubtedly increase, and the salary, I am fearful, will go lower. Already the danger line is reached and even passed, for scores of our ministers are uneasy and wondering what they can do to piece out their diminished salaries. I do not wish to seem to be pessimistic. I think I am usually as hopeful a creature as any one is apt to be in my business, but I speak of these things because they are facts staring us in the face and facts that exist whether we shut our eyes to them or not. Young men have their faces set towards the business world rather than the celestial world. Heaven seems a good ways off these times and uninteresting as compared with this present world with its glitter and bustle. A good live, successful devil with a good salary looks more interesting as an ideal to the average young man than an angel down with nervous prostration and unable to meet his bills.

In one of our institutions of learning thirty years ago one-third of the male students were studying for the ministry. That was probably an excessive percentage, but two years ago in that same school there was only one prospective minister, and there was a fear that he might be switched off the track before he completed his academic course. The name of those students is legion who have started with the ministry in view and have surrendered to the world before completing their college course; and here is a problem for our Christian colleges, namely, how to protect the prospective minister during his course of study and keep him true to the vow he took when he had his heavenly vision and when the light shone around him. To seek and find enough young men with this high calling, to guide and guard them through their course of study, and to induce the churches to pay them an adequate living salary, are questions that ought to be considered at this General Conference. A poorly paid minister is sure to lessen the number of applicants and will surely bring on a weaker class of applicants. The Lord save us from a deteriorating ministry.

RECAPITULATION

First, to give our young people a chance to work out their own divine call. Second, to be seriously warned of the great need of our ministry. Third, some emphatic word on evangelism, some utterance that shall prophesy our spiritual awakening. Fourth, some plan that shall adequately meet the great call of the West, and particularly would I mention Missouri, Oklahoma, and Indian Territory. We have bequeathed to Missouri lately the happy possession of themselves; this should be joined with the fore-mentioned and blessed with missionary labor. Sixth, there should be some action on the twentieth century loan fund, and here let me call attention to the vote of the Board to request Yearly Meetings with old meeting-houses on hand but out of use, to sell the same and put the money into the twentieth century loan fund; and the creation of Yearly Meeting loan funds throughout the denomination should be discouraged. Seventh, some utterance on self-support in missions. Eighth, some movement looking to individual support of missionaries by Yearly Meetings, by churches, and by individuals.

This is my report for the last three years. I wish to call your attention to what President Mauck said so well this morning, viz., that Free Baptists do not stand where they did 124 years ago, as is so often said, but are incalculably in advance of their primitive position. Benj. Randall set the pace. He refused to tie his horse to Calvin's tombstone to remain with the dead. He preferred rather to ride in God's chariot of truth and progress, which whirls past all graveyards into that larger and more perfect future where error digs no graves. Toward that future we are hastening, and how vast it is, not even the most discerning prophet dares to say, "for eye hath not seen nor ear heard the things which God prepares for them that love him."

H. M. FORD.

The report of the missionary correspondent, Rev. Libbie C. Griffin of New York, was presented, and on motion of Ball of New York was accepted and referred to the Committee on Foreign Missions. The report was as follows: —

REPORT OF THE MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENT

The work of your missionary correspondent has been largely routine work, "line upon line, line upon line."

In this report I will not tell the number of letters written, of miles traveled, or addresses made, but rather recount what the letters have aimed to do, what the miles were traveled for, and what the addresses emphasized.

First and most a mission committee in each church or a mission society auxiliary to General Conference. In great numbers of our churches the mission committee has come to be as vital a part of the church life as the pulpit committee or the board of trustees. The church itself is a missionary organization — if it was not organized for the world's redemption, why was it organized at all? — and it greatly simplifies church mission machinery to just name from the church a committee to arrange times and ways for the church and congregation to do mission work. This is why the executive committee of our Conference Board persistently insist on the mission committee plan.

But, brethren and sisters, when a girl in Midnapore, India, I received a rebuke from a native preacher that I have never forgotten. Let me tell it to you.

I was doing zenana work in Midnapore, and often took my plans and troubles to Purna, our keen, consecrated native pastor at Midnapore. One day he was advising me when I interrupted him with, "But, Purna, if they will not like it they ought to be made to like it, for it is the best thing." I can see to-day the fire and the pain in his big black eyes as he said to me: "Ah, Missi Baba, that is the weakness of you Americans. You will not take us as we are. You insist on taking us as we ought to be. You work then on a wrong basis. You can never do the best for my people until you take them exactly as they are and deal with the problem that gives to you."

Let us then take the problem of our General Conference mission organization as it actually is. Some insist on mission committees only. If the people do not prefer these, they ought to prefer them, they argue, for they are best. The fact remains, nevertheless, that

many churches, Quarterly Meetings, and Yearly Meetings prefer mission societies and will have them. The mission society, they say, is a stronger organization, it does not die so easily, its meetings keep alive and increase the interest in mission work, and one knows, without special investigation, that it exists. Brethren, is not the great weakness of our mission committees and the great reason why societies are often preferred this, that mission committees seldom hold mission meetings? After six years of constant effort to get appointed and keep alive mission committees in our churches, I do know this, that mission committees to do what must be done, if General Conference mission work be a power, must be more than mere machines for collecting mission money. They must be God's instruments in the churches of increasing the knowledge of mission work and the love of giving.

Mission committees must do for the church all of the things that the officers of our church mission societies do for those societies and the church, else there must be loss. Missionary meetings for prayer, mission study, and the dissemination of missionary information and zeal, meetings carried on by the laity of the church, by both men and women, are, I believe, vital to the best work for missions. Let us understand and teach that mission committees are the officers of the church on mission lines and must do all that mission society officers can do.

Taking our churches as they are, then, acting on the actual basis, where mission societies auxiliary to General Conference are preferred, let us more heartily foster and encourage them. The simplest plan for such societies and one nearly like the mission committee plan is to call each man and woman in the church who gives systematically for missions a member of the church mission society, and let these elect their officers. These officers will really be just what the mission committee of the church should be. As officers they expect not only to get mission money, but to hold mission meetings and to give reports of work done. Some of these societies are dropping the word "Woman's" from the name of their organizations and calling them simply church, Quarterly Meeting, or Yearly Meeting mission societies. This saves confusing

them with the societies of our Woman's Board and meets their approval. Some of these, too, are making men full members, and this seems well, for upon men God has laid responsibility not only to give (and they have the heavier purse), but to vote missions, plan missions, and teach missions. When mission committees expect to do these things and are expected to do them, then this organization puzzle will be largely solved.

We have in many parts of our denomination, too, woman's mission societies in churches, Quarterly Meetings, and Yearly Meetings, — societies sending large sums of money to Dr. Given, societies invaluable to our work. Are we always careful to let these societies know that we recognize them as a vital part of our organization and count constantly on their faithful support? To keep in close touch with these has been a glad part of my work.

To furnish tools for mission work and to get them used has taken much of my time. Mission cards, envelopes, folders, and mite-boxes we furnish free, and mission leaflets and programs for mission meetings we sell at cost. I have been for several years editor of a small monthly paper, and I know its unceasing demand for copy. So if mission meetings are to be regularly held there is the ever-recurring demand for material. This I have tried to help supply in new leaflets and in items of news from the fields in our papers. I have, too, kept in the papers each month articles on the mission topic, and have secured much from India and the South for our papers. Once again let me most heartily thank the many men and women who have during the year written mission articles or furnished items at my solicitation. And to Frances Stewart Mosher we are especially grateful for the strong, helpful series of articles on our "Study Book of China," that have come each month from her pen.

I have regularly written and secured articles for the *Morning Star*, *Free Baptist*, and *Our Journal*, and occasionally written or sent mission help to *The Missionary Helper*, *The Myrtle*, *The New Brunswick Intelligencer*, and *The General Baptist Messenger*. As leaflets have been sold we have not only used the money to print more leaflets to scatter abroad, but many valuable cuts have been

made, and these used on the leaflets and in our papers. To Mr. Griffin we are greatly indebted, and to him we give thanks for the use of photographs taken by him in India; just such pictures as we need now and gladly use in illustrating leaflets and mission articles.

The four special mission days have come to be one of our permanent institutions. Each special day is the pastor's opportunity to teach the A B C of missions and to give to his people the special progress for the year in the line under consideration. Great numbers of our people take no denominational papers, read no denominational books, know nothing of the denomination or denominational workers save what they hear. The offering then is not more important than the education and the inspiration of these special days.

There is a decided gain, I am glad to report, in the number of churches that pay their General Conference and State apportionments. These apportionments suggest the least that will meet the actual obligations for the year. God bless the churches that always pay the amount asked, and blessings on that ever-increasing number that always give more.

Our General Conference is composed of our Yearly Meetings and State Associations. In my work I have tried more than ever before to work through State officers, and to them I am most grateful for their helpful co-operation. I believe that our General Conference can best reach individual churches through State Boards and State Agents, and that all that we can do to increase the power and efficiency of State work makes for denominational success.

In some parts of the denomination great advance has been made in getting the Sunday schools to make one Sunday a month Mission Sunday, and some of these schools give one half of the offerings made on those days to foreign missions and one half to State work.

During the last year great numbers of letters have been written, and much time has been given to the getting of new subscribers to *The Morning Star*. In the work of mission organization, one of the members of all mission committees and one of the officers of all

mission societies is an agent for our publications. Quarterly Meeting and Yearly Meeting agents have been urged to have denominational and mission literature at all Quarterly Meeting and Yearly Meeting sessions, and push its sale. I have been assured that this year I have secured more new subscribers to *The Morning Star* than has any other person. For this success I thank the Father and the people. I have, too, personally sold many mission and denominational books during the year and years.

Since we were appointed to go to India, beginning in April I have spent much time in the field. Nine weeks were given to Ohio, where stress was laid upon education on mission plans and needs and organization. The offerings taken were for our passage to India, but hundreds of dollars were pledged, in Ohio, to the regular work.

Since then in New York Mr. Griffin and I have visited many churches and three Yearly Meetings. We have raised there, and through letters elsewhere for our passage and salary, in cash and in pledges $1,600. Four hundred dollars of this is in pledges of amounts to be paid on our salary each year for nine years.

Friends, I lay down this work with a big heartache. It is more than my meat or my drink. I lay it down and go to India, not because I know that it is God's will, but because many men and women can and are willing to work here yet few are willing to go there.

I am convinced that this work of mission correspondent should be continued. May God himself tell us who next shall take the work.

For six years I have received great kindnesses from pastors and people. I have been one of your servants — the little one to do the things that must not take the more valuable time of the others. To-day I know that what has been done has been done, and I have no time now in which to alter it.

For the future let Him take my life — the rest of it — and let it be consecrated to Him and His, just where He wills.

Respectfully submitted,

LIBBIE C. GRIFFIN.

The report of the United Society of Free Baptist Young People was presented by their General Secretary, Harry S. Myers of Michigan, and, on motion of Mawhorter of Indiana, was accepted and referred to the Committee on Young People's Work. The report was as follows:—

REPORT OF THE UNITED SOCIETY OF FREE BAPTIST YOUNG PEOPLE

Owing to the conditions existing at the last convention of the United Society of Free Baptist Young people, held in connection with the General Conference at Harper's Ferry, W. Va., in September, 1901, it was voted by the Executive Board of the United Society that it was best to employ a General Secretary for only one-third of the time. As soon as Conference was adjourned, and this seemed to be the final decision, I therefore accepted a position to teach in Hillsdale College, for two-thirds of the time, a position that had been offered me a few days previous, and entered upon the work of that place on the Saturday morning following General Conference.

Ten months later, at the meeting of the Conference Board, I was requested to become Young People's Secretary for the Board; but as I had certain obligations at Hillsdale, which did not seem to be satisfied, I declined the offer. One year later it was repeated, and believing that I had completed the work that called me to the college I resigned there and accepted the offer of the Board in July, 1903. In this report not much distinction will be made between the duties of the one office and those of the other, although they are entirely distinct, unless we desire to enter into the difficulties of some of the denominations by having the Conference delegate to another organization the cultivation of its own young people. Really the office of the United Society deals with the general work of the organization and maintenance of the Young People's Societies, while the Board Secretary was to deal specifically with the missionary development of the young people.

The work of these two offices ought to be combined in one at this session of the Conference. The work falls in the popular mind under two heads, — field work and administrative work. To most people the first is the more important, but that cannot be.

The administrative work covers a vast range of duties, and the field work, when properly done, is merely an outward form of the administrative work.

It must be remembered in making this report that the United Society owns no office material of any kind, except a letter-file and a card index cabinet, with a few cards and folders to supply the same, and some stationery. All other material necessary for the equipment of an office is either the property of an individual or is not in use at all. Further, it is to be remembered that although a good clerk would add at least fifty per cent to the amount of work possible to do, the United Society has paid only five dollars in fourteen months; whatever other assistance has been rendered has been paid from other sources.

The purpose of this branch of the work is to supervise and direct the development of the young people in the Free Baptist churches. A list of all Young People's officers in each State, Yearly Meeting, and Quarterly Meeting has been made as complete as possible, and correspondence is conducted with these officers relative to a better development of the work in their midst. A list of the Senior, Young People's, Intermediate, and Junior Societies is also kept, which is changed as often as information is received.

During the past three years at least three letters have been sent to each society each year, one preceding Foreign Mission Sunday, one preceding Home Mission Sunday, and the annual letter sent for the annual report about the first of June. These letters have been in circular form, and may be seen in the exhibit.

During the past eighteen months a leaflet has been sent to each society each month relative to the missionary meeting. This leaflet has been in the nature of information regarding the topic, and has been approved by the Literature Committee of the Conference Board before being printed. Copies of these leaflets may be seen in the exhibit.

Within the past few days a letter of commendation from a representative of the Nonconformist churches of England has been received concerning these leaflets. On their request samples were sent them for exhibition in their summer conference this last summer at Littlehampton. A similar letter was received last week from the State Christian Endeavor Union of Maine for a similar use in a Maine summer school of methods at Yarmouth. Information concerning them has come from the District of Columbia Christian Endeavor Union, and one of our own delegates at this Conference has asked that a copy of each be sent to each denominational college for permanent filing in the library, a request that has not yet been complied with.

This literature work, which has grown entirely within the last eighteen months, has already shown great possibilities, and its success shows that the Conference might do well to consider an enlarged appropriation for this very work.

Other literature regarding the policy of the work, concerning the finances and the mission study classes, has been prepared and distributed. During the past three years undoubtedly 80,000 pieces of literature have been mailed, the larger part of which has gone on request and we believe has been wisely used.

Reference has already been made to the mission study, and we are pleased at the greatly enlarging interest in this important work. There is no field so fertile for the young people as missions. It is the field of greatest opportunity, and mission study is one of the great privileges. Literature is now ready to be mailed to every society regarding the study of "Sunrise in the Sunrise Kingdom," a book by Dr. DeForest on Japan. Having spent his life there, he speaks with authority. Special helps for the leaders of the study classes have been prepared and are furnished free to every leader who orders his books of The Morning Star Publishing House, and notifies me of his desire to have the helps. It will be of interest to some of you to know that the helps thus prepared by us have been adopted by several other denominations, and will be used by them during the coming autumn and winter.

We will be prepared to announce a course in home missions for the winter and spring following this course on Japan.

The varieties of correspondence can hardly be told in a report. During the month of May, 1904, over 1,600 pieces of mail matter were mailed, approximately 500 of which were personal letters. This covered the entire field of our work, and embraced many letters relative to this Conference to which I have given over a week's time in the past eight months, since we began in earnest to prepare the program. It was concerned with letters relative to the summer conferences of the Young People's Missionary Movement, at which we had six delegates at Winona Lake and five at Silver Bay. It was dealing with those societies that were asking for information, and with those places that desired new societies. It covers seemingly every possible range of topics connected with denominational and young people's work.

About forty societies have been organized each year, and as many more weak ones have been assisted to a better life. If places that think of organizing societies would only write to me and keep in touch with me I could assist them much more than I do.

The statistics do not vary materially from those of three years ago. However, they form an interesting chapter in our work. The report regarding the contributions for missions and the increase of membership will be made to-morrow afternoon in connection with the presentations. The other statistics are as follows (see page 78) :—

The statistics reveal some very interesting things done by the societies during the past year. I read a few.

Helping poor, caring for sick, bringing souls to Christ. Have organized a mission study class.

Purchased piano for our room. Have organized an intermediate society.

Getting the young people interested in the services. Several associate members have changed to active.

Give to missions as members of church. Organized a class for Bible study.

Furnished our room. Held meetings in different parts of the town.

Enlarged the membership list. Increased the membership. Repaired the church.

State	No Y P Soc	Active	Associate	Hon	Int Soc	Int Mem	Sr Soc	Sr Mem	Jr Soc	Jr Mem	Jnd Ch	Stars Taken	F Mis	H Mis	Other Money	No Soc Mis Lib	Vol Lab	No Mis S Class	Mem M S Class	No El Cl	Mem El Cl	Junior Money
N. H.	89	1,171	186	82					12	236	14	186	$975.10	$33.00	$148.42	2	12	1	10	1	10	$44.00
Maine	77	2,082	540	162	1	15			17	408	216	180	236.02	23.14	693.40	4	179			2	88	73.00
Vermont	12	244	79	20					2	7	16	84	14.63	4.72	72.08							6.00
Mass.	15	589	97	60					5	206	38	38	180.91	68.44	251.50	2	24			3	57	122.22
Rhode Island	22	594	160	140					11	324	64	71	578.13	77.95	446.08	7	127			2	25	106.36
Central Asso.	55	1,673	422	99					20	505	77	218	263.77	79.62	652.36	6	129	1	10	10	104	58.16
Ohio	30	705	140	26	1	10			4	116	57	81	561.78	5.00	143.40	2	46	2	12	1	15	5.00
Shenandoah	5	154	60	29					2	111	27	10	2.00	5.00	11.25	1		1	9	2	46	16.25
Indiana	10	158	28	1					1	85	9	20	10.00	25.00	2.50							6.00
Michigan	42	1,042	225	91					10	388	28	88	101.35	30.41	493.89	3	52			1	9	21.75
Illinois	5	84	30								15	16	7.89	9.07	26.14							
Cairo Mission	9	180	61	12					5	90	7	42	5.17		52.60	1	25					5.56
Central Ill.	14	371	45						2	75	13	6			32.00							23.00
Wisconsin	16	306	72	17			1	25	8	51	7	58	7.00		57.04					1	5	4.60
Minnesota	14	298	43	13					5	132	23	37	127.00	23.00	567.96	3	15	1	13			33.12
Iowa	10	287	21	8					6	170	52	58	23.20	11.50	305.55	1			.			3.00
Nebraska	5	102	3						2	10	38	12	12.00	11.00	22.00							
Kansas	6	133	45	17	1	10			2	47	16	10	2.80	5.00	31.00							6.00
India																						
Nova Scotia	7	278	115	20					1		9											
Miscellaneous	3	40	9	6									8.00	5.00	5.00					1	3	
Total	368	10,491	2,175	803	3	35	1	25	110	2,911	716	1,009	$3,066.65	$421.15	$3,955.11	32	589	6	69	24	362	$563.02

Juniors organized. Increased attendance at prayer meetings.
Interested young people in temperance work. Presented individual communion service to church
Established good active society. Created missionary spirit. eetings spiritual help.
Memorizing Bible. Furnished Christmas dinners for poor, and ld special prayer meetings in members' houses.
Missionary work in needy families in our community. Supported phan at Bhimpore.
Become contributors to General Conference work. Sent literare to sailors.
Gain in junior work. Better knowledge of Bible. Paid $30 for ate work.
Gained seven for Christ. Provided calendars for church and lped repair church.
Minister's salary $25. More earnest effort for missions.
Organized last fall. Graduated eight members from junior ciety.
Organized last winter. Paid $25 for church expenses. Raised 0 for missions.
Junior society organized. Worked among the poor and sick.
Ten joined church. Raised $50 to repair the church; carpeted urch.
Fixed our room. Added 20 per cent to membership.
Get active members to pray in meeting. Special feature of missionary meetings.
Sent two young men to prepare for Christian work. One hard-orking girl gives $5 for missions.
Fifteen converts. Organized last October.
Junior society paid on pastor's salary. Support of native reacher in India.
Painted the church. Conversion of several associate members.
Mission money increased through solicited contributions.
Six years ago we were deeply concerned with finding where the oung people's societies really were and of organizing more. Perhaps we have been in error in dropping so much of that work dur-

ing the past few years, but it has seemed that great changes were taking place in the work of young people. Some of our good men and women are opposed to the society, some are indifferent to it, and many are not giving it the hearty co-operation that they might.

Our denomination has its own peculiarities in this regard. Our efforts for a denominational society placed us in peculiar relations to Christian Endeavorers after we admitted them to our annual conventions and agreed that they might be Free Baptists. At present almost all of our societies are Christian Endeavor, and so far as we know officially there is no difference in the spirit of those that bear one name as compared with those that bear another. This is the condition. We have a few hundred societies, one in every third church, these societies are developing as good Free Baptists as were ever developed by the denomination in any other way. They are making young men and young women with as spiritual lives as those ever made by any other process, but unless the society is kept in touch, intimate touch, with the other relations of the church it develops that separate spirit which has hindered its work in thousands of churches within the past three years.

It takes a strong pastor to know how to deal with these questions of relationship. Most pastors, real pastors, are in hearty love with their young people and with every effort to develop them, and recognize the society as the most efficient means for such development. But all pastors do not agree in method, and changes bring new relationships that sometimes produce friction. Changes in the official personnel of the society made other new complications. Therefore it seems to me that the pastor must be invited by the young people—must get himself invited, if you please—to the committee meetings and other gatherings, that he may never for an instant lose his hold. If that is done the difficulties will largely disappear.

But at least another thing is needed. The old society, such as was in existence at Gobleville, Michigan, in 1876, and many that have been in existence many years since then, lacked one essential feature in young people's work. The young people must be given something to do. Many young people who are not particularly at-

tracted by a prayer meeting are as spiritual as others. They must be given something else to do. The great scheme of committee work is for this development of young life. Here, then, is the need again of a pastor who has a policy for himself, one for his church and every department of it, and that means suggestions for the policy of the young people's society.

The young people's society needs a policy written out in the summer or early autumn for a year, and no society can in six months accomplish the policy that it ought to have before it at the beginning of the year. The society needs to look ahead. We must cease living on the dead level or in a merry-go-round.

The Young People's Missionary Movement is a development of the past three years. Its initiative was at the Ecumenical Conference in 1900; its start was at New York City in December, 1901; its organization was at Silver Bay, New York, in 1902. I count myself very fortunate in having been at the birth of the movement and through the kindness of Doctor Lord and the election of the Conference Board a member of its executive committee since its organization. I was re-elected last July to serve another year, subject to the approval of this Conference. This is the greatest movement among young people for the development of mission interest. Its executive committee is composed of fifteen young men representing their denominational mission boards. Its purpose is to be a clearing-house for the mission boards. The exhibit at this Conference, brought here through the special contributions of three of our friends, is the property in large part of this movement, and an hour spent there with a note-book will show the aim of the movement. I will count it a privilege to answer personal questions concerning this great movement to which we owe so much, and to which we have contributed something.

Mr. Collett, whose movements for five months have been almost entirely under the direction of our office, has been a typical field worker. He and his wife are but two of the twenty-seven whose names are in our office as desirous of being foreign missionaries. The development of work in the past two years has been very encouraging. Our young people in our colleges are volunteering

for the foreign service, and present their challenge to this Conference to send them when prepared. We dare not refuse them.

Last autumn Christmas mite-boxes were distributed to eighty-two different churches, without counting the nine hundred boxes sent to Nova Scotia to be distributed by their provincial committee and which were to be reported at their Conference a few days ago. Of these five thousand boxes distributed we have heard from those sent to forty-six places, and they report contributions of $632.51. As all were to send the money to Doctor Given, and the most of it was sent without specifying from whence it came, we cannot tell the total amount, but it was not far from $900.

Many of these boxes distributed in Sunday schools found people for the first time who were giving to Christ at his birthday. This idea has gained great headway, and should be repeated. The same boxes can be used again by merely pasting paper over the opening, and should be used from now on. It seems impossible at present to repeat the circulation of boxes through increased cost; whereas last year it cost less than $100. All told next year it may cost $300 for the boxes alone.

Two years ago a splendid Christmas exercise was prepared and several hundred copies distributed. Some are still on hand, and Doctor Anthony is preparing another for use this coming Christmas.

The Sunday school is the greatest unexplored and uncultivated field for missions in the entire church work. We need to at once organize and continue an aggressive work in this department. Mission items have been in the quarterlies; many Sunday schools are observing some Sunday as Mission Sunday, usually the first. The number was increased more than one hundred per cent by the effort made some months ago, but that could not be continued as it ought for lack of executive force. No time ought to be lost in pushing this matter. The exhibit contains many valuable suggestions, and I have some which perhaps properly should be first presented to a committee of this Conference.

FIELD WORK

The purpose of the field work is to bring the personal touch to the society and individual with the idea of enthusing them to assist in carrying out the policy of the Society.

During the past fourteen months I have travelled about 19,000 miles; addressed about 18,600 people in Colorado, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Tennessee, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island, — thirteen States in all. I have visited eighty-three different churches, attended six Yearly Meetings or State gatherings, and eleven Quarterly Meetings or rallies. Outside of the denomination I have attended the International Christian Endeavor Convention at Denver, the Michigan State Christian Endeavor Convention, Cambridge (Mass.) City Christian Endeavor Union, Western Rhode Island Christian Endeavor Union, Hillsdale County Christian Endeavor Union, Christian Endeavor Institute in Philadelphia, four Conferences of the Young People's Missionary Movement, and five churches of other denominations,— all of these without much expense to the United Society, —although there was some denominational reason why I should attend each of them, with possibly the exception of the five churches of other denominations. Through some of these and other sources I have been privileged during the past fourteen months to turn into the treasury about fifty dollars that I earned in some of these. Within the past month I have refused to attend a large meeting of another denomination to be held next week to discuss missionary matters.

The development of stronger State organizations has been a splendid thing. It has permitted more administrative work on our part and lessened the need of field work. Unless there can be an assistant to look after the office, it is in my judgment a serious mistake to be away longer than four weeks at a time, and a field worker who uses his time to best advantage cannot stand more than four weeks without rest, particularly when he is obliged to work seven days each week.

This is interesting work. I enjoy meeting and speaking with the people. However, so many of our people think that if they paid the railroad fare from the last place they have fulfilled their full financial mission, forgetting that postage, and salary, and many other expense items are going on every day.

The experience of two sister de
should cause us to act before
may result in any place when t
same field. Who shall cultivat

2. Is the Conference ready to

3. Should not some arrangem
tributed for the Young People's
church apportionment?

4. Shall we continue our re
Missionary Movement?

5. Can we not enlarge the wor
ment to meet the needs?

6. Should not the field work be
rather than with individual societi

7. Shall we not seize the pres
increase in the work among t
societies?

In conclusion, I desire to expre
and to the thousands whom you re
these things.

Eight years and eight months
the duties of this office. My priv
you for it. Perhaps I have served
blessed our efforts together

future. We may not always work together as we have done, but principles, organizations, policies live and go on; individuals stop. God has wrought great wonders. To him be the glory.

HARRY S. MYERS.

The report of the Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society was presented by their Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. S. C. G. Avery, of Maine, and on motion of Miner, of Ohio, was accepted and referred to the Committee on Foreign Missions. The report was as follows: —

REPORT OF THE WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY

If you are all readers of the *Missionary Helper* and the annual *India Report* (as I hope you are), you will be familiar with the past history of the Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society, and have kept pace with its doings from year to year. It is with pleasure the society accepts your invitation to bring to-day a brief résumé of the past year's work at home and abroad.

The mission work of the society in India is largely in Midnapore and Balasore. During the past year it has employed seven missionaries, three in Midnapore and four in Balasore. I will not take time to give a detailed report of the work in the zenanas, of the Bible women, the schools, the orphanage, etc., — interests committed to this society by the parent Board years ago; nor of the medical work, the widows' home, the kindergarten, instituted more recently by the society, to meet pressing needs. For all these interests the society has *tried* to do its best, caring for each with the same prayerful solicitude that a true mother cares for her child.

Some years ago $1,000 was given to provide a home for the missionaries of this society in Midnapore, and what was formerly known as the Old Press Building was purchased, and, while not fully completed, was remodeled into the Henderson Home, named according to the wish of the donor, and is the home of Miss Coombs, Miss Butts, and Dr. Mary Bacheler. A medical dispen-

sary was much needed, and last year money was given by Mrs. Martha Brown, of New York, for the Brown Dispensary to be built in connection with the Home. The $1,000 was insufficient to complete Henderson Home, and, as it was urged that it could be completed at less expense while building the dispensary, the matter was taken to "Our Father" for direction. Five hundred dollars soon came to the treasury, which could be used for that purpose, and a little later $850 more was added, until the Henderson Home and Brown Dispensary are now nearly, if not quite, completed.

In Balasore the necessity of a building for the kindergarten became more and more imperative every year. At one of the Board meetings last year there was great rejoicing when it was announced that the daughters of Mrs. Caroline A. Bradbury of Rhode Island had made a gift of $500 for the kindergarten hall in Balasore. Money continued to come into the treasury for this hall until it amounted to $1,300, of which Rhode Island had contributed at least three-fifths. Later a friend gave $1,000, and the finishing and furnishing of the Caroline A. Bradbury Kindergarten Hall was assured.

During the past year two missionaries have returned to their work in India, and two have come home for rest and recuperation. Last year the appropriations called for about $1,100 more than the year before, largely due to the increase in the salaries of missionaries.

In the home field the society furnishes four teachers for Storer College, besides appropriating $400 for industrial work there, which includes part of the salary of another teacher. A field worker in the West, Rev. Elizabeth Moody, is employed, $350 of whose salary is paid from the treasury of this society. One hundred dollars is yearly appropriated toward Mrs. Arter's salary in the Manning Bible School in Cairo, Ill. The society supports a Bureau of Missionary Intelligence, where busy workers can find helps for mission programs in the way of instructive and entertaining leaflets, dialogues, exercises, responsive Scripture readings, songs, etc., which the superintendent has selected not only from our own, but from the various denominational publishing houses. The *Mission-*

ary Helper, published monthly by this society, is too well known to need more than a passing mention.

For fourteen years an annual thank-offering service has been held in the month of May. The receipts have steadily increased year by year until this thank-offering service has become an important factor in furnishing means to carry on the work of the society. The receipts for the regular work for the year ending August 1 were about $6,900. This does not include amounts given for special work like the widows' home, kindergarten hall, etc. The bequests for the year amount to about $1,600; these together with the special gifts make a total on August 1, 1904, of at least $9,300.

Several years ago an annual day of prayer was appointed in the month of February which has been largely observed by the auxiliaries. Three years ago in Concord the hour of 10 A.M. was set apart as the "Quiet Hour," and all members were urged to observe it daily, in together seeking God's wisdom, guidance, and blessing for the work the society is seeking to accomplish.

For all the success and prosperity that has attended the society during the thirty-one years of its existence, thanksgiving and praise are due our great Leader. Each advance has been made after much prayer and earnest seeking for divine guidance. In no year has God's leading been more marked than during this past year, when the demands on the treasury have been greater than almost any year since the society was organized. Friends have been raised up, money sent in sufficient to meet all demands, and $500 has been given toward a sinking fund.

"Faith and works win" is the motto of this society. Its aim is, with humility of heart and loyalty of purpose, to occupy the place where God can work through it in carrying out his plan for the redemption of the world.

S. C. G. AVERY, *Corresponding Secretary.*

A communication from the executive board of Bates College was presented by Anthony of Maine, and referred to the committee on publications. It was as follows: —

At a meeting of the executive board of Bates Colleldge, he Sept. 1, 1904, the following action was taken:—

Voted, That Prof. A. W. Anthony, D. D., Prof. J. A. Howe, D. D., and Rev. A. T. Salley, D. D., be constituted a committee to convey to the General Conference of Free Baptists at its approaching session in Hillsdale, Mich., the conviction of the authorities of Bates College, that it is due to the memory of Oren B. Cheney, D. D., to the interests of the college that he founded, and of which he was the first president, to the honor of the denomination in which for more than fifty years he was an acknowledged leader, and to the youth of our country to whom his character, his contributions to the cause of Christian education, and his signal devotion to social and civic righteousness during the crucial period of our nation's history should be a continuous example and inspiration, that, as soon as may be practicable, a suitable biography be prepared of the man who in so many and so important relations served his day and generation and contributed to the triumph of those principles on which rest our hopes for our country and for mankind; and to this end they invite the co-operation of the Conference as a body, and of its individual members, in the endeavor to assure a proper financial basis for the publication of such a work and to promote its general circulation and usefulness.

F. M. DREW, *Secretary*.

On motion of Hamlen of Maine, it was voted that when we adjourn it be to 7.30 o'clock this evening in this place.

Prayer was offered by Rev. T. H. Stacy of New Hampshire, and adjournment was then declared.

WEDNESDAY EVENING

According to adjournment Conference assembled at 7.30 o'clock with President Webb in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Rev. W. J. Fulton of Ohio.

A supplementary report of the committee on credentials was adopted, showing that there were 103 members of Conference present.

On motion of Knowlton of Maine, it was voted unanimously to admit the Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia to membership in General Conference. The delegate, Rev. J. E. Gosline of Barrington, N. S., was cordially received, and made fitting remarks.

An address was given by President E. W. Van Aken of Parker College, Minnesota, on "The Denominational College."

On motion of Myers of Michigan, it was voted that when we adjourn it be to 9 o'clock to-morrow morning in this place.

Prayer was then offered by Rev. G. H. Hamlen, returned missionary from India, and Conference then adjourned.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 8

Conference assembled, as per vote of adjournment, at 9 o'clock in the Free Baptist church, with President Webb in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Rev. J. E. Gosline of Nova Scotia.

The president announced the standing committees of Conference (see pages 9, 10).

At this point a committee representing the Cleveland Ministerial Association of the Disciples of Christ appeared, bringing fraternal overtures respecting the union of the two bodies. On motion of Ball of New York

these overtures were referred to the committee on denomination.

It was then voted, on motion of Salley of Maine, that when we adjourn it be to 8.30 o'clock Friday morning, in this place.

Conference then adjourned in order to allow the United Society of Free Baptist Young People to hold their annual meeting and attendant exercises throughout the day. (For program see page 11.)

FRIDAY, SEPT. 9

Conference convened at 8.30 o'clock, agreeable to adjournment, President Webb in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Rev. G. A. Gordon of Illinois.

The roll was called, and the minutes of previous sessions were read and approved.

On motion of Anthony of Maine, Kennan of Minnesota was appointed press reporter of this session of Conference.

The report of the committee on requests was presented, considered item by item, and adopted as follows: —

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON REQUESTS

1. We recommend that the request of the Western Pennsylvania Yearly Meeting be granted, that that body be received into membership in the General Conference, and the name of its delegate, Rev. S. J. Weed, be placed on the roll.

2. As to the request of the Pennsylvania Free Baptist Association your committee, after careful investigation, does not see its way clear to recommend its reception into membership of the General Conference, but recommends instead that it be advised to return to

the Potter County Quarterly Meeting, and through that to the New York and Pennsylvania Yearly Meeting.

3. We recommend that the request of the West Virginia and Kentucky Yearly Meeting be granted, and that this Yearly Meeting be received into membership in the General Conference.

(They have no delegate present.)

CHARLES S. PERKINS,
A. L. FREEMAN,
J. J. TATUM,
F. S. HARTLEY,
G. P. MCBRIDE,
} *Committee.*

Fraternal delegates to other bodies reported as follows: Prof. A. W. Anthony reported visits to the Free Baptist General Conference of New Brunswick and to the Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia. The report was accepted.

Rev. W. J. Fulton of Ohio was, on account of sickness, excused from his visit to the General Eldership of the Church of God.

Professor Howe of Maine was excused from his visit to the National Council of the Congregationalists, held at Portland, Me.

Rev. G. A. Gordon of Illinois reported a visit to the General Association of the General Baptists. The report was accepted.

Rev. Dr. Lord, representative, and Rev. Dr. Ball, delegate to the National Anti-Saloon League, reported attendance, and their reports were accepted.

On motion of Mrs. Cheney of Rhode Island, thanks were voted to Brethren B. C. Jordan of Alfred, Me., and Rev. F. L. Wiley of Laconia, N. H., for the preparation and distribution of a pamphlet showing the

attitude of Free Baptists during their history as a denomination toward the drink evil.

On motion of Alborn of Wisconsin, it was voted that the question of membership in the National Federation of Churches and Christian Workers be referred to the committee on correspondence.

A committee representing the Cleveland Ministerial Association of the Disciples of Christ, consisting of President E. B. Wakefield of Hiram College, Ohio, President L. M. Sniff of Angola Normal School, Ohio, and Rev. S. H. Bartlett, secretary of the Ohio Christian Missionary Society, Cleveland, was introduced, bringing fraternal greetings.

Rev. Mr. Smith of the National Reform Association gave an account of the work of his association, and on motion of Ball of New York it was referred to the committee on the country.

Rev. T. H. Drake, D. D., of Oakland City College, Indiana, was introduced as a representative of the General Baptists, and gave a brief account of the body and its mission.

Reports of state agents were presented as follows: Rev. W. P. Van Wormer reported for Michigan, Rev. Z. A. Space for New York, Rev. G. A. Gordon for Illinois, Rev. E. G. Eastman for New Hampshire, Rev. S. C. Whitcomb for Maine, Rev. J. H. Wolfe for Nebraska, and Rev. G. P. McBride for Iowa.

On motion of Hamlen of Maine it was voted to refer all of these reports of state agents to the committee on church polity.

On motion of Cartwright of Ohio it was voted that when we adjourn it be to 1.30 o'clock this afternoon at this place.

Prayer was offered by Rev. W. W. Harris of New Hampshire, after which Conference adjourned.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Conference assembled agreeable to adjournment at 1.30 P. M., with President Webb in the chair. Rev. Marie McLatchey of New York offered prayer.

Roll was called and a quorum ascertained to be present.

Hamlen of Maine moved, and it was voted, that the following missionaries be invited to seats in Conference with the usual courtesies: Rev. Z. F. Griffin, Mrs. H. E. Wyman, Miss L. C. Coombs, Rev. and Mrs. C. A. Collett, and Miss E. E. Barnes.

Resolutions presented by Stacy of New Hampshire were received and referred as followed: one on returns of delegates when elected, referred to the committee on church polity; on Sabbath desecration, to the committee on the country; on mission committees, to the committee on foreign missions.

Young of Minnesota presented a resolution relating to union with the Baptists, which was referred to the committee on the denomination.

A resolution presented by Alborn of Wisconsin on union with the Baptists was referred to the committee on the denomination.

Metcalf of Rhode Island reported for the finance

committee of Conference Board, and the report was accepted as follows: —

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE BOARD

The finance committee have been in frequent consultation with the treasurer, and have advised relative to the finances of General Conference.

There have been no new investments made during the past year.

The bond of the treasurer, $5,000, is in the hands of the committee.

EDWARD P. METCALF,
DANIEL D. WATERMAN,
LEWIS B. STILLMAN,
Committee.

The publisher and treasurer of the Morning Star Publishing House, Mr. A. L. Freeman, presented a report which was accepted and referred to the committee on publications. The report is as follows: —

REPORT OF THE MORNING STAR PUBLISHING HOUSE

In accordance with the action of the Twentieth General Conference the following financial report of the Morning Star Publishing House is respectfully submitted: —

Cash on hand July 1, 1901		$556.24
July 1, 1901, to July 1, 1902	$28,801.35	
July 1, 1902, to July 1, 1903	25,224.49	
July 1, 1903, to July 1, 1904	29,523.74	83,549.58
Total		$84,105.82

EXPENDITURES

July 1, 1901 to July 1, 1902	$28,857.21	
July 1, 1902 to July 1, 1903	25,442.97	
July 1, 1903 to July 1, 1904	29,363.36	$83,663.54
Cash balance on hand July 1, 1904		442.28
Total		$84,105.82

Inventory taken June 30, 1904, shows assets and liabilities as follows:—

ASSETS

Real Estate	$19,937.00
Engine and Press Room	7,543.95
Mailing Room	551.89
Stereotype Room	35.00
Composing Room	8,557.60
Furnishings	1,211.25
Investments	13,478.00
Proceeds of Investments	330.11
Stock	1,934.50
Books	2,840.65
Office Supplies	272.50
Libraries	2,330.15
Publications	2,308.50
Illustrations	9,960.71
Miscellaneous	13,885.71
	$85,177.52

LIABILITIES

Quarterlies (advance payments)	$491.29
Myrtle " "	200.19
Myrtle Buds " "	132.31
Purchase Ledger	943.94
Notes Payable	18,648.46
Suspense Account	4.48
Salaries	1,352.88
Star Gift Fund	18.97
Annuity Fund	17,260.00
	$39,052.52
Assets above liabilities	$46,125.00

The receipts to the Publishing House for the last twelve years have decreased at the rate of two thousand dollars per year. This reduction of income is a menace to the House, and if continued will imperil its life. We need to have a subscription list to the *Star* sufficiently large to place it upon a solid financial basis, and the patronage of all the other publications should be greatly increased.

A. L. FREEMAN,
Publisher and Treasurer.

Hon. George F. Mosher, editor of *The Morning Star*, gave an address on "Our Publications."

Rev. O. D. Patch, D. D., president of the Board of Corporators of the Morning Star Publishing House, gave additional information respecting the house and its publication interests.

At this juncture, on suggestion of Rev. Marie McLatchey of New York, subscriptions to *The Morning Star* were pledged by delegates and friends present to the extent of 1,050 copies.

Rev. F. L. Wiley of New Hampshire, for the committee on ministerial record, gave the following report:—

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL RECORD

ACCESSIONS TO THE FREE BAPTIST MINISTRY BY ORDINATION AND FROM OTHER DENOMINATIONS, FROM SEPTEMBER 1, 1901, TO AUGUST 31, 1904.

NAME	STATE	BODY	ORDINATION	OTHER BODIES
Aroostook	Maine	Q. M.	1	
Bristol	Tennessee	Q. M.	9	Mennonite 1; Missionary Bap. 1; M. E. 2
Cairo	Illinois	Q. M.	1	
Carbondale	"	Q. M.		African M. E. 1
Central	"	Y. M.	7	Missionary Bap. 1; General Bap. 2
Cloud and Republic	Kansas	Q. M.	1	
Delaware and Clayton	Iowa	Q. M.	1	

ACCESSIONS TO THE MINISTRY, ETC. (*Continued*).

NAME	STATE	BODY	ORDINATION	OTHER BODIES
Eddyville	Kentucky	Q. M.	8	Presb. 1 M. E. 1
Farmington	Missouri	Q. M.	5	M. E 1
Flatt Creek	Tennessee	Asso.	3	
Gibson	Pennsylvania	Q. M.	1	
Harmony	Ohio	Q. M.	2	
Holton and White River	Michigan	Q. M.		United Breth. 1
Jefferson	New York	Q. M.	2	
Lawrence	" "	Q. M.	3	
Lewis	Kentucky	Q. M.	1	
Little Scioto	Ohio	Q. M.	1	M. E. 1
Looney Springs	Illinois	Q. M.	3	
Lorain	Ohio	Q. M.	1	
Marshall	Missouri	Q. M.		Presb. 1
Mecosta	Michigan	Q. M.		M. E. 1
Massachusetts	Mass.	Asso.	3	
Michigan	Michigan	Asso.	15	United Breth. 1
Mound City	Illinois	Q. M.		African M. E. 1
Natchez	Mississippi	Q. M.	8	Union Bap. 2
New Hampshire	N. H.	Y. M.	1	M. E. 1
New Madrid	Ohio	Q. M.	8	Missionary Bap. 2
Orange	Vermont	Asso.		Second Advent 1
Otisfield	Maine	Q. M.	2	
Otsego	New York	Q. M.	2	
Oswego	" "	Q. M.		Baptist 1
Parsonsfield	Maine	Q. M.	1	
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	Asso.	2	
Rhode Island	Rhode Island	Asso.	2	Baptist 1
Rochester	New York	Q. M.		Chris. Alliance 1
Rock and Dane	Wisconsin	Q. M.		Disciples 1
Salem	Kansas	Q. M.	1	
St. Francis	Tennessee	Q. M.		General Bap. 1 Missionary Bap. 1
St. Louis	Missouri	Q. M	5	
South Dakota	South Dakota	Q. M.	1	
Southwest	Pennsylvania	Q. M.	1	
Spafford	New York	Q. M.	1	
Springfield	Missouri	Q. M.	2	
Sunlight	Mississippi	Q. M.	2	
Terre Haute	Indiana	Q. M.	1	Baptist 1 M. E. 1
Tuscarora	New York	Q. M.	3	
Union	Tennessee	Asso.	2	
Van Buren	Iowa	Q. M.		Disciple 1
Washington	Pennsylvania	Q. M.	1	

SUMMARY

Accessions by Ordination	114
Accessions from other Denominations	32
Accessions Total	146

From other Denominations: — **Baptist 13; Second Advent 1; Christian Alliance 1; Disciples 2; Mennonite 1; Methodist 10; Presbyterian 2; United Brethren 2.**

FREE BAPTIST MINISTERS DIED SINCE SEPTEMBER 1, 1901.

NAME	RESIDENCE	DATE OF DEATH	AGE IN YEARS
James Armstrong	New Orleans, La.	Oct. 8, '01	
S. Bartlett	Polk, Ia.	Feb. 4, '03	84
Newell W. Bixby	Edgewood, Ia.	Jan. 30, '03	94
Christopher C. Bowman	Augusta, Me.	Feb. 22, '04	79
Otis W. Bridges	Fort Fairfield, Me.	Oct. 25, '03	97
Emery H. Butts	E. New Portland, Me.	June 23, '04	75
Windsor Brown	Bordino, N. Y.	June 20, '04	71
Wm. Clark Byer	Batavia, N. Y.	Nov. 19, '01	52
R. S. Bowie	Lisbon, Me.	Dec. 17, '01	83
P. Butterfield	Shelly, N. Y.	Aug. 14, '02	70
Thos. W. Burkholder	Balasore, India	Nov. 16, '03	53
J. D. Calvert	Irving, Kan.	Feb. 23, '02	59
Nathaniel Campbell	Raymond, Pa.	Aug. 28, '03	77
Oren B. Cheney	Lewiston, Me.	Dec. 22, '03	88
Solomon Cole	Lebanon, N. H.	Apr. 3, '02	81
Jacob Corey	Rattle Cliff, La.	Jan. 21, '04	65
Andrew J. Davis	Hillsdale, Mich.	Sept. 24, '03	74
Jere. S. Dinsmore	Tecumseh, Neb.	Nov. 6, '02	73
Gardiner Douglass	Rochester, N. Y.	Apr. 11, '04	92
J. W. Finney	Kansas City, Kan.	Apr. 4, ——	44
Chas. W. Foster	Neponset, Mass.	Sept. 16, '02	66
Joseph R. Franklin	So. Strafford, Vt.	May 27, '02	53
David Sidney Frost	Washington, N. J.	Dec. 31, '02	89
R. C. Frye	Green Co., Tenn.	July 16, '02	54
H. Gray	Murphysboro, Ill.	Feb., '03	77
Horace G. Hill	Bloomville, O.	July 10, '04	51
J. W. Halleck	Sparta, Mich.	May, '01	54
Moses Cheney Henderson	St. Johnsbury, Vt.	July 16, '04	85
Wiley Hill	Pulaski, Ill.	1903	68
H. H. Hogan	Kuttawa, Ky.	July 12, '04	40
Richard L. Howard	Limerick, Me.	Dec. 11, '02	78
Daniel Garland Holmes	Wittenberg, Wis.	May 2, '02	90
Joseph F. Hamblen	Westboro, Mo.	June 20, '02	85
Daniel W. Hunt	Knoxville, Pa.	Oct. 31, '02	65
David Johnson	Abilene, Kan.	July 26, '03	81
Richard M. Johnson	Wise, Va.	Jan. 19, '04	81
R. Jones	Row Landing, La.	Mar. 24, '04	68
Thomas Kenniston	New Hampton, N. H.	Dec. 25, '01	82
Horace H. Keyes	Claybanks, Mich.	Sept. 3, '01	67
Peter Lansing	Yutan, Neb.	Sept. 7, '02	94
P. A. Lewis	Carbondale, Ill.	May 10, '02	54
J. Frank May	Maysville, Ky.	Nov. 28, '03	51
Wm. Mitchell	Hortonville, Wis.	Jan. 8, '04	83
Franklin Barney Moulton	Beldenville, Wis.	June 20, '02	67
W. L. Nickerson	Gonic, N. H.	June 2, '03	37
Wm. R. Norton	Du Plain, Mich.	Feb. 17, '02	80
Frederick H. Peckham	Lewiston, Me.	Apr. 12, '04	57
Chester Morillo Prescott	Lestershire, N. Y.	Nov. 17, '03	82
Chas. L. Pinkham	Alton, N. H.	Dec. 22, '03	62
O. J. Pettigrew	Alton, N. H.	Sept. 16, '02	70
Reuben Pride	Mound City, Ill.	1903	70
Stephen Phillips	Smithfield, R. I.	May 31, '04	70
Nathan G. Palmeter	Loudon Center, N. H.	Nov. 10, '01	55

FREE BAPTIST MINISTERS DIED (*Continued*).

NAME	RESIDENCE	DATE OF DEATH	AGE IN YEARS
John Palmer	Riverbank, Calif.	July 27, '03	78
Francis Reed	Lawrence, Mass.	Mar. 18, 03	83
Charles Reed	Mound City, Ill.	1904	27
Edward Root	Weeping Water, Neb.	Oct. 22, '01	79
Wiley Rufus	Caruthersville, Mo.	May 10, 04	65
John Rodgers	Rich, Mich.	Apr. 13, '04	82
Mrs. Lucy English Simmons	Sheridan, Mich.	Dec. 21, 01	
Guy Smith	Tuscarora, N. Y.		30
Federal A. Stanford	Otsego, Mich.	Nov. 15, '01	86
Winfield Scott Stockbridge	Glencarlyn, Va.	Oct. 15, '02	61
Virgil D. Sweetland	Palmyra, Me.	Nov. 27, '02	65
D. M. Simerly	Island Mills, Tenn.	Feb. 14, '03	68
J. H. Smith	Bristol, Tenn.	Mar. 7, '03	45
W H. Ward	W. Charleston, Vt.	Oct. 16, '01	57
E. B. Whaley	Spring Creek, Pa.	Jan. 23, '03	74
Harrison White	Sedalia, Mo.	May 28	68
W. J. Wilson	Pope, Tenn.	Jan., '01	65
Chas F. Wells	Mound City, Ill.	Jan. 16, '02	43
Wm. Wilson	W. Mansfield, O.	Aug. 4, '02	58
James Monroe Woodman	San Leandro, Calif.	Dec. 27, '03	80
John Westlake	Oskosh, Wis.	Feb. 27, '02	62
C. C. Wainwright	Hagerstown, Md.	Aug. 23, '02	45
H. C. Warren	Hemlock, Tenn.		58

Whole number deceased	75
Youngest	27
Oldest	97
Average age of the 73 whose ages at death were given is 68 7.26—in round numbers	69
Between the ages of 20 and 30	1
" " " 30 " 40	2
" " " 40 " 50	5
" " " 50 " 60	14
" " " 60 " 70	16
" " " 70 " 80	15
" " " 80 " 90	17
" " " 90 " 100	5

F. L. WILEY,
G. H. BALL,
G. F. MOSHER,
Committee.

Professor D. B. Reed, D. D., of Hillsdale College, gave an address on "Qualifications of Free Baptist Ministry."

On motion of Stansbury of Michigan it was voted that when we adjourn it be to 7.30 o'clock this evening in this place.

Prayer was offered by Rev. W. P. VanWormer of Michigan, and Conference adjourned.

FRIDAY EVENING

Pursuant to adjournment, Conference reassembled at 7.30 o'clock. President Webb was in the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. R. R. Kennan of Minnesota.

The committee on credentials recommended the seating of Rev. H. Green, from the Western Missouri Yearly Meeting, and on motion of Twort of Massachusetts he was seated.

An invitation from the Mayor and City Government of Hillsdale was received for a carriage ride about the city at such hour as would be convenient for Conference. On motion of Glovier of Michigan this courteous invitation was accepted, and the hour set at 3.30 o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

On motion of Glovier it was voted that when we adjourn it be to 8.30 o'clock to-morrow morning in this place.

An address was given by Prof. A. W. Anthony, D. D., of Bates College, Maine, on "Children, their Conversion and Membership in the Church."

The Lord's Supper was celebrated, administered by Rev. C. S. Perkins, D. D., of New Hampshire and Rev. J. H. Maynard of Michigan.

After singing, adjournment was taken.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 10

Conference convened in compliance with adjournment at 8.30 A. M., President Webb in the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. G. H. Hamlen of Maine.

Roll was called and a quorum found to be present.

The minutes were read and accepted.

The amendment to the constitution according to the following due notification, was then considered, and on motion of Hamlen of Maine was unanimously adopted :—

AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION

Notice

At the last meeting of the General Conference of Free Baptists held at Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, Sept. 4–10, 1901, the following amendment to its Constitution was proposed to be acted upon at the next regular meeting: —

Amendment to Constitution

Amendment to Article 6 of the Constitution by adding, in the sixth line, after the word "treasurer," the words "corresponding secretary."

Dated at Clerk's office at West Bowdoin, Maine, this 15th day of February, *Anno Domini* 1904.

N. S. PURINTON,
Clerk of General Conference of Free Baptists.

Certificate of Notice

This is to certify that I have published the foregoing notice of the proposed amendment to the Constitution of General Conference of Free Baptists in *The Morning Star* and *Free Baptist*, two denominational papers, also the *Kennebec Journal*, a paper published in the State of Maine, six months before the time of meeting of said General Conference, as provided in Article 12 of the Constitution, the same being the legal notice required.

Dated at West Bowdoin, Me., this 15th day of February, 1904.

N. S. PURINTON,
Clerk of General Conference of Free Baptists.

On motion of Mawhorter of Indiana, the amendment to the by-laws, proposed at the last session of General Conference (see page 132 of the Minutes of the thirty-first session), was unanimously adopted. That amendment was as follows: —

AMENDMENT TO BY-LAWS

Strike out Article 1 of the By-laws, and insert in its place the following: —

1. Nominations for the Conference Board shall be made from the floor, no speeches being allowed in making nominations.

2. The names of all persons nominated shall be printed in alphabetical order, in suitable form and sufficient number to be used as ballots, space being left for the insertion of additional names.

3. The ballot shall be for the twenty-one members of the board on one ballot, names of all for whom the member does *not* wish to vote being erased.

4. A ballot for more than twenty-one persons, or for less than seven women, shall not be counted.

The committee on doctrine presented a report, which after amendment was adopted as follows: —

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DOCTRINE

1. In view of the doctrinal agitation rife in many parts of the Christian world we urge on our ministry to heed the apostolic admonition, "Take heed to thy doctrine," and we recommend our pastors to preach doctrinal sermons often; also we recommend program committees to arrange for doctrinal sermons to be preached at Quarterly and Yearly Meetings and Associations, contending for the faith once delivered to the saints as expressed in our Articles of Faith, but interpreted according to the light of liberty accorded to the mind of the preacher.

2. *Resolved*, That happy is the church whose pastor preaches the fundamental doctrines of Christianity in their natural order and in

their well-balanced proportions, avoiding the undue iteration of a few favorite truths, and handling each precious doctrine with a glowing spirit, and with a rhetorical rather than a dry, didactic style.

3. *Resolved*, That we recommend our ministry to become acquainted with the volume of "Free Baptist Theology," published by the Morning Star Publishing House.

4. *Resolved*, That our pastors be urged to form classes, especially of the young, for instruction in our denominational faith, as presented in the catechism recently published by the Morning Star Publishing House.

5. *Resolved*, That we urge those of our ministry who have not studied the doctrine of our church, and who are not prepared to attend either of our theological schools, to take the course of study offered by our correspondence school.

J. A. HOWE,
GEORGE E. MOORE,
J. E. GOSLINE,
MARIE MCLATCHY,
T. J. MAWHORTER,
} *Committee.*

The committee on requests made a partial report recommending the admission to membership in General Conference of the West Virginia and Kentucky Yearly Meeting. It was voted unanimously to admit this body.

Comber of Kansas presented a resolution relating to the distribution of the published minutes, which was referred to the committee on finance.

A communication from the National Women's Christian Temperance Union, relating to the observance of the fourth Sunday in November as the World's Temperance Sunday, was referred to the committee on temperance.

On motion of Kennan of Minnesota it was voted to

limit the introduction of new business to the close of the session next Monday noon.

The committee on church polity presented a report, which, after amendment, was adopted as follows:—

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CHURCH POLITY

1. The strict independence of the churches in all matters relating to the transaction of their own business is indispensably necessary to the enjoyment of our religious liberty, yet in association with other churches the individual church is bound in honor to co-operate in all general plans and purposes, and to respect advice given by delegated associations and organizations of the churches to which they respectively belong.

2. *Resolved*, That we urgently advise each church to diligently train and instruct, so far as possible, all the children within the sphere of its influence in Christian truth and life, and to gather them into the church as soon as they give evidence of sincere faith in Jesus Christ; and that to such children special pastoral care be given, to the end that they grow in grace and knowledge and become actively useful in all departments of churchly activities.

3. *Resolved*, That General Conference heartily recommend the appointment of superintendents within suitable districts as a part of our administrative service, to devote their entire time to the general interests of the churches, aiding them in securing pastors, and protecting them from incompetent and unworthy persons.

4. *Resolved*, That the Secretary of General Conference instruct clerks of Yearly Meeting that they are expected to report names of delegates and substitutes to him as soon as they are elected.

GEO. H. BALL,
ELSIE ANDERSON,
W. W. HARRIS,
G. E. MANTER,
Committee.

A communication from Hillsdale College, relating to the nomination of members of an advisory board, was referred to the committee on education.

A resolution, presented by Stacy of New Hampshire, relating to divorce, was referred to the committee on the country.

A resolution presented by Stacy of New Hampshire, on the missionary correspondent, was referred to the committee on foreign missions.

The committee on program reported the following assignments for Sabbath services: —

At the Methodist Episcopal church, Rev. T. H. Stacy of New Hampshire; at the Baptist church, President J. M. Davis, D. D., of Ohio; at the Free Methodist church, Rev. G. A. Gordon of Illinois; at the Presbyterian church, Prof. A. W. Anthony, D. D., of Maine.

At the Free Baptist church the program as already announced: —

10.30 A. M. Sermon, Prof. J. A. Howe, Dean of Cobb Divinity School, Maine.

12.00 noon. Sunday school.

3.00 P. M. Memorial service. Devotional exercises, Rev. Frederick L. Wiley, New Hampshire. Roll call of deceased ministers, George F. Mosher, LL.D., Massachusetts. Memorial address, Rev. George H. Ball, D. D., New York.

6.30 P. M. Young people's service: "What the Bible Teaches about Heaven." John 14: 1–3; Rev. 21: 1–8.

7.30 P. M. Sermon, Rev. A. T. Salley, D. D., Maine.

On motion of Woodworth of New York the committee on program was directed to arrange for the introduction to Conference of the local pastors.

On motion of Manter of Maine it was voted that when we adjourn it be to 1.30 o'clock this afternoon in this place.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Elsie Anderson of Illinois, and Conference then adjourned.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Conference assembled at 1.30 P. M., in accordance with adjournment. President Webb was in the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. J. M. Arter of Illinois.

On motion of Woolsey of Tennessee, Ricks of Illinois and Stratton of Rhode Island were excused from attendance after the sessions of to-day.

Patch of Michigan presented a communication relating to a Sunday-rest conference, which was referred to the committee on correspondence.

Mauck of Michigan presented a resolution relating to the duties of chairmen of standing committees which was referred to the committee on denomination.

The letters and reports of the bodies composing Conference were referred to a special committee consisting of Eastman of New Hampshire, Phillips of New York, and Gosline of Nova Scotia.

On motion of Metcalf of Rhode Island the clerk was directed to prepare and have printed a ballot for the election of members of Conference Board.

On motion of Anthony of Rhode Island, the chair appointed as committee to canvass the vote for Conference Board, Myers of Michigan, Westwood of Ohio, Manter of Maine, Woodworth of New York, and Heath

of New Hampshire. Nominations were made for members of Conference Board of sixty-three persons, as follows:—

NOMINATIONS FOR CONFERENCE BOARD

G. C. Alborn, Wisconsin; Mrs. E. H. Andrews, Rhode Island; Miss Mabel C. Andrews, Maine; Alfred W. Anthony, Maine; J. M. Arter, Illinois; Mrs. S. C. G. Avery, Maine; George H. Ball, New York; Mrs. M. A. W. Bachelder, Michigan; N. C. Brackett, West Virginia; George C. Chase, Maine; Mrs. E. B. Cheney, Maine; Fred Comber, Kansas; Mrs. Ellen A. Copp, Wisconsin; J. J. Coughenour, Ohio; Edwin Crowell, Nova Scotia; Miss Rachel Davies, Ohio; J. M. Davis, Ohio; Miss Harriet A. Deering, Maine; Miss L. A. DeMeritte, Maine; Mrs. L. P. Durgin, Minnesota; Henry M. Ford, Michigan; W. J. Fulton, Ohio; Arthur Given, Rhode Island; G. A. Gordon, Illinois; J. E. Gosline, Nova Scotia; Fred S. Heath, New Hampshire; Mrs. A. M. Holt, New York; Mrs. Alice Hulce, Michigan; J. J. Hull, Maine; Miss Dora Jordan, Maine; R. R. Kennan, Minnesota; Hiram Knowlton, Maine; T. C. Lawrence, Ohio; R. D. Lord, New York; John M. Lowden, Rhode Island; J. W. Lucas, Tennessee; C. E. McColley, Iowa; H. T. McDonald, West Virginia; Mrs. Marie McLatchy, New York; A. M. Marston, Pennsylvania; D. B. Martin, Massachusetts; Joseph W. Mauck, Michigan; T. J. Mawhorter, Indiana; Edward P. Metcalf, Rhode Island; M. C. Miner, Ohio; George F. Mosher, Massachusetts; Harry S. Myers, Michigan; O. D. Patch, Michigan; C. S. Perkins, New Hampshire; A. T. Salley, Maine; Mrs. Ellen C. Salley, Maine; Z. A. Space, New York; Mrs. Lillian E. Sprague, New York; L. H. Sprague, New York; Thomas H. Stacy, New Hampshire; W. J. Twort, Massachusetts; E. W. VanAken, Minnesota; W. P. VanWormer, Michigan; L. M. Webb, Maine; E. H. Willisford, Nebraska; A. E. Wilson, New Hampshire; John H. Wolfe, Nebraska; C. H. Woodworth, New York.

Two addresses were given on "Home Missions in the West," by Rev. R. R. Kennan of Minnesota and Rev. Elizabeth Moody of Michigan.

It was voted that when we adjourn it be to 8.30 o'clock Monday forenoon in this place.

Prayer was offered by Rev. A. E. Wilson of New Hampshire, after which Conference adjourned.

MONDAY, SEPT. 12

Pursuant to adjournment Conference met at 8.30 A. M., with President Webb in the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. A. C. Droz of Indiana.

The roll was called and a quorum found to be present.

Minutes were read and approved.

On motion, Green of Missouri and Phillips of New York were excused from further attendance on Conference.

A resolution presented by Miss DeMeritte of Maine, relating to the report of the treasurer, was referred to the committee on finance.

Ford of Michigan presented a resolution relating to the raising of funds for the foreign mission debt, and it was referred to the committee on program, who assigned this evening for the purpose.

Maynard of Michigan, Metcalf of Rhode Island, and Droz of Wisconsin were excused from further attendance.

Gordon of Illinois presented a resolution relating to public schools which was referred to the committee on the country.

The following amendments to the constitution and by-laws were proposed: —

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

I propose the following amendment to Article 5 of the Constitution of General Conference, and request that notice of the same be given in the call for General Conference, viz.:—

To strike out the words, "at least one third of whom shall be women," so that the first sentence of the article shall read, "There shall be chosen by ballot from persons in good standing in the denomination, who may or may not be members of the Conference, a Conference Board, to consist of twenty-one members, to which is hereby delegated full power to act for and in behalf of the Conference, from one regular meeting of the Conference to another."

I also propose the following amendment to the by-law of General Conference adopted September 10, 1904, and now printed in Minutes of the Thirty-first General Conference, on page 133, and request that the proper notice be given, viz.:—

To strike out the words, "or for less than seven women" in specification 4 of said by-law, so that the sentence when so amended shall read, "A ballot for more than twenty-one persons shall not be counted."

W. W. HARRIS.

Notice of change in the Constitution is hereby given:—

That Article 7, line 18, after the word "published" shall read, "in *The Morning Star*."

G. A. GORDON.

I hereby propose the following amendment to Article 1 of the by-laws, viz:—

Amend Section 2 by inserting after the word "printed" the words, "the men and women in separate columns each," so that said section shall read:—

"2. The names of all persons nominated shall be printed, the men and women inseparate columns, each in alphabetical order," etc.

Amend Section 3 by striking out the words, "does not wish to vote being erased," and inserting instead thereof the words, "wishes to vote shall be indicated by a cross opposite such names," so that said section shall read:—

"3. The ballot shall be for twenty-one members of the board on one ballot; names of all for whom the member wishes to vote shall be indicated by a cross opposite such names."

Amend Section 4 by striking out the words, "less than seven women," and inserting instead thereof the words, "more than fourteen men," so that said section shall read:—

"4. A ballot for more than twenty-one persons, or for more than fourteen men, shall not be counted."

FRED S. HEATH.

The committee on the ministry submitted a report, which after amendment was adopted as follows:—

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Whereas it is the custom of some of our churches in settling pastors to engage them from year to year; and whereas it is our conviction that such custom is unsatisfactory in its results; therefore

Resolved, That as soon as possible we urge that it become the custom among us that pastors be engaged for an indefinite period, it being understood that the pastoral relation be dissolved in one of the following ways: either by a voluntary resignation of the pastor, or by a notice of the church to the pastor that a change is desirable. In either case three months' time should be given, so that the pastor may find a new field, and the church another pastor.

Resolved, That we reiterate the resolutions passed at the last session of the General Conference respecting the procedure of license and ordination of those entering upon the ministry. (See pages 137 and 138 of printed Minutes of 1901.)

Whereas many of our churches have suffered from having irresponsible persons in the garb of ministers of the gospel,

Resolved, That our churches be often warned that they be on their guard against that class, and that they strenuously demand proper credentials as certificates of character and qualification; also, in passing from one association to another such certificates be required of all our ministers.

Whereas from every part of the denomination comes the demand for pastors, and the Master bids us pray for laborers; therefore

Resolved, That we urge all our ministers to regard as their duty to seek by personal solicitation and prayer, and every effective way, to induce godly young men and women to consecration and thorough preparation for the work of the Christian ministry both for our home and foreign field.

Whereas it is often extremely difficult to find suitable homes for pastors in those fields where our churches possess no parsonages and in many instances no assurance can be given of a suitable house during even a short pastorate, for this reason they are unable to secure a desirable pastor; and whereas it is desirable to put all our churches in the best possible condition for prosperous and efficient work, therefore

Resolved, That we recommend that such churches be urged to make strenuous efforts to possess themselves of comfortable parsonage properties, and that our ministers should in all judicious ways seek to promote this object.

It is the duty of every Free Baptist minister to take and read our denominational organ, *The Morning Star*, that he may keep in touch with all parts of the denomination. It is his duty to endeavor to put the *Star* into the homes of his members; also to help his people to become acquainted with our Treatise and Catechism, and see that our Sunday-school supplies be used in our Sunday school; and report annually to the ministers' conference or Yearly Meeting the number of subscribers to *The Morning Star*, new or renewals, secured during the year; also he should purchase marriage certificates and books needed that are sold by the Morning Star Publishing House. He should also regard it a duty to frequently send facts of interest from his field for publication in the *Star*.

Whereas the report of the General Conference treasurer shows that during the past year nothing was contributed for the ministerial relief fund; and since we have no means of caring for our superannuated ministers except such relief fund, the treasury of which is nearly empty, therefore

Resolved, That the last Sunday of October annually be set apart by the General Conference as a day when each Free Baptist church be asked to take a collection to assist those worthy ministers who because of age or infirmity are in need.

A. E. WILSON,
B. F. JEFFERSON,
S. J. WEED,
J. B. MCMINN,
F. M. BUKER,
} *Committee.*

Prof. J. W. Lucas of Unicoi, Tennessee, gave a report of the work of the denomination in the Unicoi school. At the conclusion of the address persons present pledged thirty-two desks for the school.

The report of the joint committee of Conference between the General Conference and the Woman's Missionary Society was presented by Mrs. Durgin of Minnesota. It was unanimously adopted without change. The report was as follows:—

JOINT COMMITTEE'S PLAN

The joint committee appointed by the General Conference and the Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society presents the following plan for unification of the denominational missionary work.

1. That the Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society be asked by this Conference to transfer its local, Quarterly Meeting, Yearly Meeting, Association and Conference Societies, and its missionary magazine, to this Conference organization, and that the organizations so transferred send their money directly to the General Conference treasury. Whenever this is done the General Conference shall assume the support of all the work now done by the Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society save that cared for by the Woman's Missionary Society from its invested funds.

2. That the Woman's Missionary Society in perpetuating itself by membership fees shall pay these into the treasury of General Conference, after all expenses of administration of the affairs of this society are properly met.

The conditions on which the Woman's Missionary Society is asked to give the auxiliaries to the General Conference to be administered in the interests of all denominational work, are such that we recognize the need of a close touch between the Woman's Missionary Society and these bodies of women in order that there shall be as little immediate change in methods of work as possible, and that women may be held to the new order of things as closely as possi-

ble. In order to secure the sympathy and co-operation of the Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society in this plan it is proposed on the following conditions:—

(1) That the General Conference shall provide a general secretary of the woman's department of General Conference mission work, who shall be nominated by the Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society. This secretary shall have the oversight of the transferred society, and through the General Conference Board the Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society may convey suggestions or plans regarding the work of this secretary for their consideration.

(2) That the Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society shall nominate an editor of the *Missionary Helper* to be elected by the Conference Board. Said magazine shall be managed by a publishing committee, appointed by Conference Board, two-thirds of whom shall be nominated by the Woman's Missionary Society.

(3) That the India committee shall consist of all the missionaries in the field, both men and women, and that the one-third membership in the Conference Board shall remain unchanged by the constitution.

Should any changes in this plan be necessary, they shall be made only by the vote of both bodies. Should it be adopted by General Conference it shall be submitted to the Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society.

Should this plan be adopted by General Conference we suggest that all details in carrying out the plan, or modifications in the plan, which may be necessitated by the action of the Woman's Missionary Society, shall be committed to the Board of this Conference with full power to act.

R. D. LORD,	L. M. P. DURGIN,	*Committee.*
H. M. FORD,	M. A. W. BACHELDER,	
O. D. PATCH,	L. A. DEMERITTE,	
For Gen. Conf.	For Woman's Mis. Soc.	

Miner of Ohio presented a resolution relating to a pastor's record book, which was referred to the committee on denomination.

The committee on foreign missions presented a report, which after amendment was adopted as follows:—

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN MISSIONS

1. *Resolved*, (1) That in view of the exigencies of the foreign mission work both as to financial needs and tremendous opportunities, our people should spend more thought, time, and heart energy in prayer for the mission work itself, and for our people at home that they may consecrate of the means over which God has made them overseers, that portion which the Lord needs for the efficient conduct of the mission work.

(2) That at least one half hour should be set apart immediately following the introduction of the missionaries, in the afternoon session, for prayer for our mission interests.

2. In view of the report of the corresponding secretary of the Woman's Mission Society, presented to us,

Resolved, That we rejoice in the loyalty shown for denominational interest, and the earnest purpose and achievement evinced.

3. Whereas our loved and lamented Dr. James L. Phillips secured the endowment for our Bible school at Midnapore, India, and gave to its work many fruitful years; and

Whereas one of our first missionaries was the revered Dr. Jeremiah Phillips, and several of his children have been and are our efficient missionaries; also,

Whereas Deacon Rufus Deering of blessed memory largely gave the money with which the Bible school building was made, and devoted his life's best thought and service to God's work in our denomination; therefore

Resolved, That the Midnapore Bible school be named the Phillips Bible School, and its building be called Deering Hall.

4. *Resolved*, That in answer to a communication from the General Baptists of the United States asking for temporary workers from our native staff and possibly a part of our field, we cordially extend to them the opportunity of supporting the work of the Contai station and the preachers there located, involving the expense of about $300 per year, the management of the workers to

remain in our hands as at present. Also that we think that we can give to them when they have sufficient men and means for the work and so desire the part of our field known as the Koenjur estate, where there is a bright prospect of immediate results, but which we are now unable to occupy because of lack of men, and its distance from any station now occupied.

5. (1) We view with great sorrow the depletion in the ranks of our missionaries in the field, caused by the death of Rev. Thomas W. Burkholder, M. D., and Mrs. J. B. Rae. How great is the loss sustained by their removal from the field, can be fully known only to Him who has called his servants to their reward, and who has bidden us to pray for more laborers in the harvest field.

(2) It is with feelings of deep regret that we learn of the continued illness of our sister, Miss Helen M. Phillips, and desire to extend to her our appreciation of her many years of self-sacrificing labor. We pray and trust that she may recover her health and be restored to the work.

6. Whereas there have come to the attention of the civilized world reliable accounts of peculiarly atrocious conditions existing in the Congo Free State of Africa, whereby the native population of from twenty to thirty millions of people is being exploited for the financial benefit of the European authorities in control of said Congo Free State, in contravention of an act of the assembly representing all the nations of the western world, by which said ruler was given control of said State; and

Whereas these aforesaid conditions have resulted in the practical enslavement of millions of human beings, the death of thousands, and the devastation of large areas of country,

Resolved, (1) That the General Conference of Free Baptists assembled in Hillsdale, Mich., hereby petitions the Congress of the United States to institute a thorough investigation of the charges brought against the authorities of the Congo Free State, and if these charges are found to be true, to unite with other western powers to secure that humane and just government which was originally guaranteed to the native people of said State.

(2) That copies of the above resolution be forwarded to Congress.

and to the Congo committee of the Massachusetts Commission for International Justice.

7. We note with satisfaction the encouraging reports from our mission field in Africa, under our enthusiastic missionary, Rev. Lewis P. Clinton. We desire that his request for colored missionaries, and $300 for a house for them, be granted, and that as soon as a suitable man and wife be found they be sent to the field.

8. *Resolved*, That the corresponding secretary be instructed to prepare annually, and to present to Conference Board, an itemized budget of the estimated expenses and income of all departments of the work for the year following its annual meeting.

9. *Resolved*, That we respectfully urge all the officers of this Conference to give more attention to the extension and perfection of our denominational organization for mission work, including especially the card system of benevolences,

10. The condition of our mission property in India is such that considerable sums are annually needed for repairs, much of which might be saved if money enough were available to put the property in a state of permanent repair. Besides this, large sums are now greatly needed to complete buildings now in process of erection there, and to erect others; and such sums are likely to continue to be needed as the work increases. Furthermore, there is great and constantly growing need of Christian literature both for Christians and non-Christians. These needs we are not meeting to any extent, because of lack of funds; nor does there seem to be any prospect of immediate relief of these needs through the regular channels; therefore

Resolved, That we commend these objects to those who contemplate contributing directly or by will sums to be expended for foreign mission purposes.

11. *Resolved*, That we gratefully recognize the faithful work of our mission correspondent, Mrs. L. C. Griffin, for the last six years, and prayerfully commend her, in her return to her old, loved work, to the tender care of our Heavenly Father. We further instruct General Conference Board to provide for the work she has been doing.

12. We recognize and commend the good work done by mission committees, and societies, Sunday-schools, mission bands, and by many young people's societies, for missions. We are pleased that the plan of supporting individual workers is meeting with such favor among our churches, quarterly meetings, and larger bodies, and we recommend the extension of that and of the station plan.

13. *Resolved*, That we communicate to our brethren and sisters in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick our pleasure at their continued assistance in doing our Lord's work under their flag — that flag whose protection for our fellow-laborers in India we so gratefully recognize.

14. *Resolved*, That we hereby express to our faithful workers in India our joy in them and their work; and that we assure them, and those about to sail, of our heartfelt sympathy, and pledge our earnest support of their work.

15. *Resolved*, That we express, through our corresponding secretary, our gratitude to Mr. J. H. Henry, of Lincoln, N. H., for his pledge to support one of our foreign mission families for ten years. We earnestly hope that many other well-to-do friends of the work will follow his example. Respectfully submitted,

R. R. KENNAN,
F. S. HEATH,
GEO. H. HAMLEN,
L. C. GRIFFIN,
H. E. WYMAN,
LUCY PHILLIPS DURGIN,
} *Committee.*

Mrs. Cheney of Rhode Island presented a resolution relating to an appropriation for the Unicoi school, which was referred to the committee on home missions.

The committee on temperance presented a report which was adopted as read. The report follows:—

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE

Resolved, 1. That this General Conference reaffirms its time-honored position in favor of total abstinence from all intoxicating liquors as a beverage, and the prohibition of the liquor traffic.

3. Whereas government is administered that we recognize the right of every citize party most nearly representative of his o the sentiment of this General Conference should use the ballot as an expression of victions, even though he is obliged somet political party with which he is allied.

4. That we recommend the observance November, the world's temperance day, by

N. C. BRA
CLARA L.
N. C. MCI
JOHN H. V
MARY E. V
E. E. PHI

The committee on the New West which was accepted as read. The r

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON T

In view of the many opportunities offere great West by its rapid development; a center of population, wealth, and political westward; and that other denominations unbounded efforts to gain possession of this unless we improve our

3. That we hold out encouragement to our Missouri brethren, and urge a co-operation between them and Illinois in supporting a district superintendent. Also, that we urge a similar co-operation between Iowa and Wisconsin, also between Minnesota and the Dakotas.

4. That a series of articles be written for the *Star*, by some person or persons chosen for that purpose, setting forth the conditions and opportunities of this great field.

5. That a series of tracts be published, setting forth our doctrines, usages, and educational facilities, for free distribution in the West.

6. That a special effort be made to raise funds by personal contributions and otherwise to support this work.

M. C. MINER,
FRED COMBER,
J. M. YOUNG,
H. GREEN,
T. H. WOOLSEY,
Committee.

The committee on Bible cause presented a report, which was adopted as read. The report was:—

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BIBLE CAUSE

The Bible is human, "for holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit."

The Bible is divine, "for all Scripture is given by inspiration of God."

Through this human and divine agency the will of our Heavenly Father is revealed to us. It shows us what we are, and where we are going.

It tells us how to think, believe, feel, talk, and do.

1. Therefore we should investigate it in a thorough and intellectual way, calling to our aid all the helps within our reach.

2. We should study it devoutly, that we may be fed with its divine nourishment.

3. We ought to meditate on its teachings when we are alone in the Quiet Hour, according to the recommendation of our young people's societies: "Be still and know that I am God."

4. We ought to study it in our families, that they may learn its precepts, and be prepared for the duties of life.

5. The sentiment should be greatly strengthened, not only to learn its doctrines, geography, and history, but to commit large portions of it to memory by the old and young in our Sabbath schools.

6. We are devoutly thankful the Bible has so large a place in the curriculum of our schools and colleges, and would recommend that we labor and pray that it may have a more prominent recognition and study therein.

7. We recommend that Bible study classes be organized in all our churches, and that they be systematically carried on from year to year as a recognized part of church work.

8. Recognizing the superior merits of that version of the Bible known as the American Standard, we heartily commend it to our people, and recommend that wherever practicable it be used in our homes and churches.

Respectfully submitted,

ISAAC HYATT,
A. C. DROZ,
A. P. DAVIS,
A. A. GLOVIER,
} *Committee.*

On motion of Mauck of Michigan, it was voted that when we adjourn it be to 1.30 o'clock this afternoon in this place.

Prayer was offered by Rev. N. C. McKoon of New York, and Conference then adjourned.

MONDAY AFTERNOON

In accordance with adjournment, Conference assembled at 1.30 o'clock, with the president in the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. Fred Comber of Kansas.

It was voted to excuse Mathews of Pennsylvania, and Mrs. Anderson of Illinois from further attendance.

Ballot was taken for members of Conference Board. The tellers retired.

For the election of treasurer the chair appointed, on motion of Wilson of New Hampshire, the following tellers: Comber of Kansas, Butler of New York, and Keith of New Hampshire. The tellers reported eighty-four votes cast, necessary for a choice forty-three, and that Rev. Arthur Given, D. D., of Rhode Island had received seventy-seven, and he was declared elected.

Fred S. Heath of New Hampshire was unanimously elected auditor.

Rev. Mr. Williamson, pastor of the Presbyterian church of Hillsdale, was introduced, and gave fraternal greetings.

Rev. Arthur Given, D. D., of Rhode Island was unanimously elected corresponding secretary.

The committee on Sunday school presented a report, which after discussion was adopted as read:—

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOL

Your committee is of the unanimous opinion that no topic of more vital importance to our denomination and the kingdom of God has or can come to the attention of the Conference than that of the Sunday school. We have created elaborate organizations to deepen interest in missionary and educational matters, to formulate and carry out far-reaching plans in these great departments of church activity. We give these subjects a large place on our General Conference program, and ask eloquent and able men and women to plead for them. But here is a subject of surprising importance that receives the mere recognition of a few resolutions from a triennial committee. Your committee protest, first things ought to be first in the work of the modern church. Of the many things which ought to receive careful consideration at your hands, your committee ask permission to mention the following:—

We recommend, 1. That in view of the vast importance of the

subject, General Conference request our theological seminaries to incorporate in their curricula an extensive course in the best methods of Sunday-school work.

2. That this body voices to all our pastors and churches the conviction that Sunday-school evangelism is the most hopeful instrumentality for church extension now known to the church.

3. That the Cradle Roll and home department should be made prominent in Sunday-school work, and that our denominational paper be requested to bring these departments often to the attention of its readers, furnishing them from time to time with helpful material and suggestions.

4. That normal classes and Sunday-school teachers' meetings be established whenever possible for the further training of our Sunday-school teachers, and we urge our pastors and Sunday-school teachers to attend, whenever possible, summer schools in Sunday-school methods, and be present at Sunday-school conventions.

5. That one collection in each month be given to missions, and that through a mission superintendent or mission committee in the Sunday school, frequent missionary news items be brought to the notice of the scholars.

6. That we request the editors of the *Myrtle*, *Myrtle Buds*, and *Star Quarterly* to continue to make abundant use of missionary matter and illustrations in their publications.

7. That we request the program committee of General Conference, State Associations, Yearly Meetings, and Quarterly Meetings, and Ocean Park Assembly to give large space to the discussion of Sunday-school matters by efficient Sunday-school workers, and that one session of General Conference be devoted to Sunday-school interests.

8. That General Conference ask Rev. T. H. Stacy to prepare for publication in the *Star* a list of the best Sunday-school books for Sunday-school teachers, officers, and pastors.

9. We recommend that our own Quarterlies be used in all our Sunday schools.

In order that these recommendations may be brought more fully before superintendents and teachers, we suggest that a series of

articles be secured by the editor of the *Star* for its Sunday-school department, written by Sunday-school workers, on the various suggestions here made.

10. That the quarterly temperance lesson be faithfully taught in all our Sunday schools.

11. In conclusion your committee wish to give expression to the conviction that little children belong to God, and that the greatest problem with Christian parents, Sunday-school teachers, and Christian workers in general is, how to train their children so that they will come early into an acceptance of Jesus Christ.

A. T. SALLEY,
HARRIET A. DEERING,
C. H. WOODWORTH,
M. D. TUCKER,
C. D. ALLEN,
} *Committee.*

On motion of Mosher of Massachusetts, Stacy of New Hampshire was elected, as indicated in item 8 of the report on Sunday schools, to furnish for the *Star* lists of material for Sunday-school workers.

Rev. Mr. Griffith, pastor of the Baptist church of Hillsdale, was introduced, and brought fraternal greetings.

The nomination of corporators of the Morning Star Publishing House was referred to the committee on publications.

The nomination of trustees of the Manning Bible School was referred to the committee on education.

The committee on correspondence presented a report, which after amendment was accepted as follows :—

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE

Resolved, 1. That we extend to Nova Scotia Conference of Free Baptists a most hearty welcome to this body, and appoint as delegate to bear our greetings at their Conference, Rev. R. D. Lord, D. D., of New York; alternate, Rev. D. B. Martin of Massachusetts.

2. That Rev. John Lowden, D. D., of Rhode Island, represent this Conference at the Free Baptist Conference of New Brunswick, with Rev. A. W. Jefferson of Rhode Island alternate.

3. That Rev. H. M. Ford, D. D., of Michigan, be our delegate to the Association of General Baptists, with Pres. J. W. Mauck, LL. D., of Michigan, alternate.

4. That Rev. Geo. E. Barnard of Ohio be our delegate to the General Eldership of the Church of God, with Rev. T. C. Lawrence of Ohio alternate.

5. That Rev. E. W. Van Aken of Minnesota be our delegate to the National Council of Congregationalists, with Rev. R. R. Kennan of Minnesota alternate.

6. That we have been pleased to have at this Conference representatives of the Church of Christ, that we have listened with pleasure to what they have said to us, and that we appoint as delegate to that body Rev. Geo. H. Ball, D. D., of New York, with Rev. G. A. Gordon of Illinois alternate.

7. That we appoint to represent us at the "Baptist World's Congress," to be held in London in the summer of 1905, Rev. A. T. Salley, D. D., of Maine, with Rev. Arthur Given, D. D., of Rhode Island, alternate.

8. That it affords us much pleasure to welcome among us the newly organized bodies, the Western Pennsylvania Yearly Meeting and the West Virginia and Kentucky Yearly Meeting.

9. That we send to represent us in the International Sunday Rest Congress at St. Louis, Oct. 11-14, Rev. C. E. McColley of Iowa, with Rev. G. C. Alborn of Wisconsin alternate.

10. We recommend the cultivation of fraternal relations with all other Christian organizations, and that Conference Board appoint representatives to any Christian Conference when it is deemed necessary.

THOMAS H. STACY,
G. C. ALBORN,
F. G. MATTHEWS,
ALICE L. HULCE,
JOHN W. MCLAUGHLIN,
} *Committee.*

The committee on finance presented a report, which was adopted as read :—

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

To the General Conference of Free Baptists :

Your committee on finance recommends :—

1. That the usual payment be made to the clerk for his services, expenses, and assistants.

2. That the report of the treasurer, when the auditor's certificate is attached attesting its correctness, be accepted, and published in the MINUTES.

3. That the minutes of this session of the Conference be printed, and a copy be sent to each delegate to this Conference and to such clergymen and others as the discretion of the corresponding secretary may dictate, and that to this end each delegate now file with the clerk his post-office address.

4. That a statement of the assets and liabilities and an inventory of all property of the General Conference, domestic and foreign, be prepared for each future Conference, under the approval of the committee on finance serving *ad interim*, together with such financial statements and inventories of properties of the several institutions and other agencies of the denomination as may be obtainable, and that either or all of these statements and inventories be offered to *The Morning Star* for publication when the wisdom of said committee may prompt.

5. That a finance committee of three persons, residing near the treasurer, and two corresponding members, be now appointed by the president of the Conference to serve until your next session, and, to make this recommendation effective, the subscribers hereto now severally tender their resignations.

Upon the treasurer's oral report of a considerable legacy made by one recently deceased, it is the judgment of your committee that, since the estate will not be settled for approximately two years, it is too early for the Conference to take action upon the same beyond this grateful recognition of the benevolence of the decedent and his friends.

We are sure we voice the sentiments of all delegates and their constituents in giving this general recognition to the many benefactions of varying amounts bestowed upon the several agencies of the denomination by members who wisely so place portions of their possession as to render continuing service to mankind. Special mention is made of a cash gift of $5,000, by Mrs. Schuyler Aldrich, to the Unicoi School, and of that of our venerable associate, the Rev. Schuyler Aldrich, of $20,000 added to the endowment of the Central Association. These are notable additions to generous benevolences of our brother and sister, who are providentially able to attend this session of the Conference.

Upon the request of your committee, the treasurer has submitted the following hastily prepared statement of assets and liabilities:—

ASSETS

Investment funds in all departments	$68,027.80
Current fund cash balances	5,840.40
Melrose church	12,000.00
Unicoi property	18,500.00
	$104,368.20

There is other property in India not here estimated.

LIABILITIES

Foreign mission debt	$3,056.98
Home mission debt	10,397.77
Education note	5,000.00
Unicoi last payment	4,500.00
Melrose mortgage	4,500.00
	$27,454.75

The above foreign mission debt of $3,056.98 is represented as accruing from a large increase in work by natives in India, for which contributions were not made; that is to say, the particular work of our foreign missions has providentially and hopefully expanded, and this should be a cause for rejoicing. We have long

planned and prayed for more of this kind of native work, and this answer to prayer should prompt us to diligent duty in extinguishing the debt. It is a debt pure and simple, with no material asset to offset it, and can be cancelled only by increased contributions.

From the view-point of book-keeping, the home mission debt of $10,397.77 is in one sense less embarrassing, because it has arisen from purchases of real estate believed to be worth considerably more than it has cost. The church at Melrose, Mass., was sorely divided, and the General Conference assumed its floating debt of $3,632.95 and took a deed of the property, subject to the mortgage, now current, of $4,500. This property has been estimated at $12,000 to $15,000, and the church gives promise of becoming again a strong organization. Even if the church should fail to pay the mortgage and the General Conference pay the same ($4,500) in addition to the floating debt ($3,632.95), the property would have cost the principal sum of $8,132.95, so that one of the transactions creating a debt might result in a net business profit.

The larger part ($7,929.11) of the home mission debt arose from the purchase of the Unicoi property, which the General Conference Board believes to greatly exceed in value its cost, and was acquired for a minor fraction of the sum expended on it by those from whom the Board purchased it. In short, tangible property in hand has a value in excess of the debt which it has imposed. Without the purchase of the Melrose and Unicoi properties, the home mission fund would have a surplus in hand of $1,164.29.

However, these properties were not acquired for business profit or speculation. They are unproductive, and until they are paid, they are carried by funds contributed for investments whose earnings should apply on current benevolences, and so long as those investments are in unproductive properties, those current benevolences must be omitted. The Melrose church may take care of its mortgage, but no such contingent relief is afforded for the $4,500 due in October of this year on the Unicoi property, and for that account reliance is of necessity placed upon prompt contributions from the churches before the date of payment next month. Otherwise, money must be borrowed to meet the payment, and the home mission debt account be further increased.

The treasurer reports that the education fund has a balance of $5,134.14, which would more than offset the above note of $5,000, and he has orally explained to the Conference why it has not been deemed wise to pay the note.

Borrowing from funds contributed for investment has presumably been wise in view of ultimate margin in values of properties acquired, but pastors and laymen are cautioned against a feeling of security in the thought that invested funds can be used indefinitely to carry debts for other accounts. Business prudence and business honor, as well as Christian obligations, require the payment of these debts, and the return of the permanent funds to their original uses.

It is recommended that the treasurer make such summary of this report for the MINUTES as his judgment dictates.

Respectfully submitted,

Jos. W. Mauck,
A. E. Purinton,
A. T. Stratton,
E. E. Cartwright,
C. A. Buker,
} *Committee.*

The committee on denomination presented a report, which, after discussion and amendment, was adopted as follows:—

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DENOMINATION

The committee on denomination respectfully recommends, as to union with other bodies, that so much of the action of the 26th General Conference, held at Marion, Ohio, 1886, be reaffirmed as follows:—

1. We believe in the spiritual unity of all the followers of our divine Lord, and desire so to manifest his spirit as to evince our unity with him and with all who love him.

2. We are ready to form such alliances with other Christian bodies as may promise larger results in advancing our Lord's kingdom.

3. We regard loyalty to Christ and the Bible, and the independence of the local church, as a basis on which closer relationships with other Christian bodies may be attained.

Further, we recommend the following statements:—

Inasmuch as our denomination consists of a membership widely scattered, stands for a standard of truth conscientiously held and dearly loved, and possesses a sacred trust inherited in part from the past, we welcome no overtures for union, deem no discussions of union and no movements for union wise or honorable to all the interests involved, which do not contemplate and do not promote he union of the whole denomination as a body, and not the union or consolidation of local churches and associations, which would be denominational disintegration. We therefore commend the brethren who in the spirit of denominational loyalty have referred questions of union, which have arisen in their own localities, to the denominational head, the General Conference, and commend this policy of action to all our brethren everywhere, viz., to refer all proposals and plans of union to General Conference, that action when taken, if at all, may be the action of the whole, and not of a part.

We further recommend the following statements:—

1. No union can promise peace and efficiency which does not allow liberty of conscience, and hence the independence of the local church in the observance of the holy communion, and in settling other questions of difference which may exist between us and other bodies.

2. No union can be safely and rightfully contemplated which does not conserve the moral and legal responsibilities which have been entered into by the denomination in accepting gifts, donations, and bequests, specified for definite purposes. We are a corporation, as well as an ecclesiastical body; we have vested interests, some in the name of General Conference, some in the name of lesser incorporations, all aggregating many thousands of dollars, all to be safeguarded and preserved for the interests of the kingdom of God, and for the purposes for which they were received.

We recommend that to our brethren of the Church of Christ, or Disciples, we express our cordial regards and fraternal greeting, and in the overtures of the committee of the Cleveland Ministerial Association of the Disciples of Christ, recognize the spirit of union

for which our Master prayed. In view of these overtures, and advances of a similar character made by other bodies,

We recommend that twelve members of the denomination be appointed, as a standing committee on conference with other Christian people, to meet similar committees, which may be appointed by other bodies, and consult respecting doctrinal and other grounds of union, this committee to report to the next session of General Conference.

Meantime, while our relations with other Christian people may be examined, we recommend to the brethren of our denomination the faithful and hopeful cultivation of our field, ours by the good providence of God, ours by the very tasks imposed and burdens and sacrifices entailed, ours by the successes and blessings already won, ours by the cheer and encouragement so abundantly manifest in this session of General Conference.

ALFRED W. ANTHONY,
O. D. PATCH,
E. G. EASTMAN,
W. J. TWORT,
LAURA A. DEMERITTE,
Committee.

On motion of Ball of New York, voted that when we adjourn it be to 7 o'clock this evening in this place.

Voted, that the special order for 7 o'clock be a mission prayer meeting.

The following returned missionaries were at this point introduced: Rev. and Mrs. Z. F. Griffin, Rev. and Mrs. H. E. Wyman, Rev. George H. Hamlen, Miss L. C. Coombs, Miss E. E. Barnes, and Rev. and Mrs. C. A. Collett, who are under appointment to go to India.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Z. F. Griffin, and adjournment was declared.

MONDAY EVENING

Conference assembled at 7 o'clock, as per adjournment, President Webb in the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. A. M. Simonton of New York.

Woodworth of New York and Freeman of Massachusetts were excused from attendance after this evening.

The report of the Correspondence School was presented by the president, Prof. J. A. Howe, D. D., and referred to the committee on education.

A special meeting of prayer for our mission work and our missionaries was now held, led by Rev. George H. Hamlen of Maine.

The sum of $2,000 was then pledged by the persons present to be applied to the liquidation of the debt in the foreign missionary treasury.

The tellers in the ballot for members of Conference Board reported that thirteen men and six women had received a majority of the votes cast. Another ballot was ordered, in which one man and one woman were elected. The full membership of Conference Board was then declared elected as follows:—

THE CONFERENCE BOARD

A. W. Anthony, Mrs. S. C. G. Avery, Miss H. A. Deering, L. M. Webb, of Maine; T. H. Stacy and Miss L. A. DeMeritte of New Hampshire; Mrs. Alice Hulce, O. D. Patch, and J. W. Mauck of Michigan; Z. A. Space and R. D. Lord of New York; R. R. Kennan and Mrs. L. M. P. Durgin of Minnesota; Mrs. Ellen A. Copp of Wisconsin; W. J. Fulton of Ohio; G. A. Gordon of Illinois; G. F. Mosher of Massachusetts; E. P. Metcalf of Rhode Island; T. J. Mawhorter of Indiana; Mrs. A. M. Holt of New York; J. E. Gosline of Nova Scotia.

The special committee to which were referred the letters from Yearly Meetings and Associations made a report, which was adopted as follows:—

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REPORTS FROM YEARLY MEETINGS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Your committee have, as fully as possible, with the material at hand, attended to their work, and submit to you the following:—

This General Conference is composed of sixty-two Associations and Yearly Meetings, three of which are of recent accession, bringing into this Conference forty-seven churches, twenty-two ministers, and 3,718 members.

Of these sixty-two, reports have been received from thirty-five, which report 149 Quarterly Meetings, 1,144 churches, 949 ordained ministers and 40 licentiates, 73,215 members, with a net gain of 562.

This gain is scattered over nineteen Yearly Meetings and Associations, as far apart as from Nova Scotia to Nebraska.

Three Yearly Meetings report losses. Twenty-seven have sent no reports, a fact to be deplored.

Your committee would recommend the following:—

1. That upon Yearly Meeting clerks shall be impressed the importance of their work in sending reports. Only as this is done can this General Conference have full and accurate information.

2. We would call attention especially to the recommendation made by Rev. H. M. Ford, asking that a field agent be placed in Missouri and Oklahoma.

Your committee believe from reports received that the denomination is steadily pursuing its appointed work, and while meeting many obstacles, is yet making substantial progress.

Respectfully submitted,

E. G. EASTMAN,
E. E. PHILLIPS,
J. E. GOSLINE,
Committee.

On motion of Mrs. Durgin of Minnesota, the members of the joint committee on conference between General Conference and the Woman's Missionary Society were elected as follows: Lord of New York, Patch of Michigan, and Ford of Michigan.

The Woman's Missionary Society appointed the following persons as their representatives on the committee: Mrs. L. M. P. Durgin, Mrs. Frances Stewart Mosher, and Mrs. S. C. G. Avery.

The committee on education presented a report, which was adopted as read. The report was:—

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

1. We see the same reasons as have existed in the past for recognizing the value and importance of the Correspondence School, and recommend the appropriation of fifty dollars a year for the next three years to meet the expenses of the school, and we recommend the continuance in service of the present faculty, namely: Rev. J. A. Howe, D. D., president, and professor of systematic theology; Rev. B. F. Hayes, D. D., secretary and treasurer, professor of philosophy and the sciences; Rev. A. T. Salley, D. D., professor of Old Testament literature and exegesis; Rev. A. W. Anthony, D. D., professor of New Testament literature and exegesis; Rev. J. M. Davis, D.D., professor of homiletics and church polity; Rev. D. B. Reed, D. D., professor of ecclesiastical history; Rev. J. T. Ward, D. D., professor of ethics and apologetics.

2. In accordance with the request of the trustees of Hillsdale College, we recommend that the Conference Board be authorized to propose, at the annual meeting of the board of trustees of Hillsdale College, the names of not fewer than six persons for the election of three to the advisory board of the theological department, to the end that such elections may be as fully representative of the denomination as possible.

3. We are gratified with the evidence given in some of the exercises of this Conference and in other ways, that the recommendations of this committee in our last General Conference that appear in paragraphs 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 of their report, have already been so largely carried out by our Yearly Meetings, young people's societies, and educational institutions, and urge that they be still more fully observed.

4. We recommend that the $2,000 or $2,500 authorized by the Conference Board, and now in process of being raised for a Manning Bible School dormitory, be pushed to completion within the next twelve months if possible.

5. We recommend that the three trustees of Manning Bible School to be elected in June, 1905, be chosen from the following list of six: J. M. Arter, N. Ricks, G. A. Gordon, M. A. Jones, A. J. Donaldson, and J. L. Meads.

J. M. DAVIS,
E. W. VAN AKEN,
ELIZABETH MOODY,
E. K. JORDAN,
J. M. ARTER,
} *Committee.*

The committee on the country presented a report, which was adopted as read. The report follows :—

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON COUNTRY

Resolved, 1. That thanksgiving be rendered to Almighty God for his abundant prosperity upon our land, and the peaceful relations we sustain with the other nations of the world.

2. That thanksgiving be rendered to Almighty God for the progress in morals, education, and religion that has attended our national efforts in our new possessions.

Whereas our national character is being blighted by mobism and race-hatred in various sections of our land, therefore

Resolved, 3. That we declare that every criminal should be brought before a tribunal of justice which shall pronounce a just punishment for the crime without respect to color or race. Also that equality of public school rights be tendered to every citizen within our borders.

4. That we heartily co-operate with those institutions and societies whose aim and object is to obliterate the race-problem, and open the doors of advancement to all men alike.

Whereas capital and labor are continuing to oppose each other and distress our commercial interests, and frequently to endanger life, therefore

Resolved, 5. That in the interest of both (capital and labor) we urge the securing of such State or national laws to be established as shall secure equal rights to both, and safety to our citizens.

Whereas our national purity and family relations are being undermined by loose divorce laws, therefore

Resolved, 6. That we affirm our position that the only Scriptural ground for divorce is fornication, and that whoever marries the guilty party thus divorced marries into adultery. We advise the ministry of our denomination to refuse to perform the marriage ceremony of persons divorced for other than Scriptural reasons.

Witnessing with sadness the increasing tendency to secularize the Sabbath, thus weakening the power of the church and destroying respect for the Christian religion, and increasing the burdens of laboring men, therefore

Resolved, 7. That we deprecate these conditions and set ourselves with consecrated determination against them, that we refrain from patronizing the results of Sunday labor, such as Sunday papers, baker's wagons, and such like; also Lord's day entertainments and amusements; also excursions for personal entertainment; also that we patronize trains, electric cars, and steamboats only in case of greatest necessity.

8. That we join with the National Reform Association in observing the second Sunday in September each year as a day of prayer for our public schools.

We would call attention to the literature of this Association in the hall for free distribution.

J. J. HULL,
R. H. WESTWOOD,
ELLA R. PRICE,
O. L. NICHOLS,
} *Committee.*

Missionary addresses were given as follows: "General Conditions of Missionary Work in India," Rev. M. C. Miner, Ohio. "Special Work in the Balasore District," Rev. G. H. Hamlen, India. "Special Work in the *Midnapore District*," Rev. H. E. Wyman, India.

Voted, that when we adjourn it be to to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock in this place.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Elizabeth Moody of Michigan.

Conference adjourned.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 13

Conference assembled at 8 o'clock A. M., as per vote, President Webb in the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. B. F. Jefferson of Vermont.

Roll was called, and a quorum was found present.

The minutes were read and accepted.

On motion of Ball of New York, the committee on denomination was requested to nominate the committee of twelve on conference with other Christian people, as called for in their report.

Ford of Michigan presented a vote of the Conference Board respecting the work of the young people, which was referred to the committee on young people's work.

On motion of Howe of Maine, the following resolution was adopted :—

Resolved, That our field secretary be instructed to use such measures as are necessary for obtaining reports from bodies connected with us not reporting annually their statistics for publication in the *Year Book*.

The committee on young people's work presented a report, which after amendment was adopted as follows :—

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

1. Whereas Mr. H. S. Myers has been elected a member of the executive committee of the Young People's Missionary Movement, subject to the approval of this body, therefore

Resolved, That his election on such committee is most heartily approved.

2. Whereas Harry S. Myers has been elected general secretary of the United Society of Free Baptist Young People, we recommend that his election be approved by this body, and that in the discharge of his duties he be under the direction of the executive committee of General Conference Board, provided that the United Society of Young People become responsible for his support.

D. B. MARTIN,
H. C. LOWDEN,
L. H. SPRAGUE,
CHAS. P. COLLETT,
E. P. METCALF,
} *Committee.*

On motion of Mawhorter of Indiana, it was voted that when we adjourn it be to 1.30 o'clock this afternoon in this place.

Prayer was offered by Rev. T. J. Mawhorter of Indiana, after which Conference adjourned.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON

Conference assembled at 1.30 P. M., as per adjournment, President Webb in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Mrs. Cheney of Rhode Island.

The minutes were read and accepted.

The committee on home missions presented a report, which as amended was adopted as follows:—

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOME MISSIONS

1. We urge the importance of continued contributions or gifts for this work. Further we would recommend the payment of the $4,500 now almost due on the property, when due. And would further recommend the selling of the land, not needed for school purposes, as speedily as possible.

2. And we would recommend that General Field Secretary Ford proceed as soon as possible to secure gifts for this purpose, before the note is due Oct. 16th.

3. We recommend that the matter of the 20th Century Church Building Fund be pushed to the completion of the first $100,000 asked for as speedily as possible, and urge that our friends remember it in their bequests and gifts; also those having the Lord's money are asked to place it in the Denominational Church Building Fund at a small per cent, instead of in banks.

4. Help has been asked for the many interests, all of which we recommend to be referred to the Conference Board for appropriations.

J. W. FULTON,
G. A. GORDON,
J. H. WOLFE,
A. M. SIMONTON,
C. S. WHITCOMB,
} *Committee.*

The committee on publications presented a report, which after amendment was adopted as follows:—

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATIONS

The committee on publications to which were referred the matters herein specified, having considered them severally submit the following recommendations:—

1. That the General Conference approves of the publication of the biography of the Rev. Oren B. Cheney, D. D., deceased, and that the matter be referred to the Executive Board of Bates College.

2. That the request of the Morning Star Publishing House for an appropriation of $200 per year for three years be granted, and that the Conference recommend the employment of such agent or agents as the corporation may select to solicit funds for its endowment or current expenses.

3. Respecting the request submitted in regard to the publication of systematic theology as taught in Hillsdale College, your committee suggest that the publication be approved.

4. We recommend the following names from whom the Morning Star Publishing House is to elect their corporators for 1905: C. A. Milliken, Augusta, Me.; Mrs. M. A. W. Bachelder, Hillsdale, Mich.; Fred S. Heath, Concord, N. H.; D. D. Waterman, Provi-

dence, R. I.; Charles Coffin, Providence, R. I.; Daniel G. Wood, Providence, R. I.

5. Believing it to be of the utmost importance to our future that the *Morning Star* be read by our people, we recommend that an earnest effort be made to greatly increase the subscription list.

6. We recommend that to this end, time be assigned on the program of Associations, Yearly and Quarterly Meetings, for obtaining subscriptions to the *Star* and Sunday-school publications.

HIRAM KNOWLTON,
RIVINGTON D. LORD,
A. C. KEITH,
EMELINE B. CHENEY,
SARAH C. G. AVERY,
G. W. STANSBURY,
} *Committee.*

The committee on denomination presented the following nominations for the committee of twelve on conference with other Christian people.

The report was adopted and the persons elected :—

COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCE WITH OTHER CHRISTIAN PEOPLE *

Pres. J. W. Mauck, LL. D., Michigan; Mrs. L. M. P. Durgin, Minnesota; L. M. Webb, Esq., Maine; Rev. Z. A. Space, New York; Hon. G. F. Mosher, LL. D., Massachusetts; Rev. R. D. Lord, D. D., New York; Rev. R. R. Kennan, Minnesota; Mrs. S. C. G. Avery, New Hampshire; Pres. G. H. Ball, D. D., New York; Rev. C. S. Perkins, D. D., New Hampshire; Rev. H. M. Ford, D. D., Michigan; Prof. A. W. Anthony, D. D., Maine.

Voted, that when we adjourn it be to 7 o'clock this evening at this place.

Prayer was offered by Rev. G. P. McBride of Iowa, after which Conference adjourned.

* This committee organized as follows: chairman, Prof. A. W. Anthony, D. D., Lewiston, Me.; secretary, Rev. H. M. Ford, D. D., Hillsdale, Mich.

TUESDAY EVENING

Conference assembled, as per adjournment, at 7 o'clock, President Webb in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Rev. S. C. Whitcomb of Maine.

Minutes were read and accepted.

In harmony with the report of the finance committee, already adopted, the *ad interim* finance committee resigned, and the following committee was elected: E. P. Metcalf, D. D. Waterman, and L. B. Stillman, all of Rhode Island, as the members in close contact with the treasurer; and as the corresponding members of the committee, C. H. Woodworth of New York, and J. W. Mauck of Michigan.

On motion of Stacy of New Hampshire, it was voted that the time and place of holding the next session of General Conference be referred to Conference Board with power.

On motion of Howe of Maine, it was voted to instruct the next committee on program to limit the session of General Conference to seven days.

On motion of Stacy of New Hampshire, it was voted that the committee to revise and publish the minutes of this session of Conference, be the clerk and Anthony of Maine.

On motion of Patch of Michigan, the following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved, That the committee of twelve, this day appointed on conference with other Christian people, be and hereby is empowered to fill vacancies in its membership, which may arise from death or permanent physical disability.

On motion of Patch of Michigan, the name of Rev. R. R. Kennan of Minnesota was added to the list of persons nominated as corporators of the Morning Star Publishing House.

Several persons on the evening program were excused, owing to the lack of time. The following addresses were given :—

On Rio Grande College, President J. M. Davis, D. D.

On Storer College, Treasurer N. C. Brackett, Ph. D.

On the Manning Bible School, Principal J. M. Arter.

On motion of Hamlen of Maine, the following resolution was adopted :—

Resolved, That we, the members of this Conference, pledge ourselves to complete the good work begun here in lifting the burden of debt from our foreign mission treasury, by methods like those used here, in our Associations and Yearly Meetings, or if too late for those, then in the Quarterly Meetings and Conferences where we can; also to increase the regular offerings as fast as possible to meet the growing needs of the work.

Also *Resolved*, That we ask the corresponding secretary to suggest to the members, as soon as possible, the amount to be raised in each section.

The committee on resolutions presented a report, which was considered and adopted by a rising vote. The report was :—

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CLOSING RESOLUTIONS

In view of the favorable conditions under which the thirty-second session of the General Conference of Free Baptists has convened, be it

Resolved :—

That this Conference desires to make grateful acknowledgment to Him from whom cometh every good and perfect gift, for the

weather conditions prevailing throughout the session, for His protecting care over its delegates since leaving their homes, and for His spirit to guide and inspire in all its business and devotional services.

To the pastor and membership of the Hillsdale church.

To the president, faculty, and students of Hillsdale College, and to the friends whose doors have been open for entertainment, for the pleasure and privilege of meeting with this church and in this city, for the most cordial, whole-souled, and brotherly way in which we have been received and entertained, and for the care given by the various committees in meeting every possible need of every visitor.

To the mayor and city council, to the business men of the city, and to the citizens at large, for the kindness extended in giving opportunity to visit by carriage the points of interest in the city and the various business enterprises, and for the courtesy with which in private and in public we have been received.

To the railroad companies over whose roads we have traveled, for reduced rates, and for facilities and accommodations furnished.

To the pastors and congregations of the city, for the spirit of Christian fellowship shown in the invitation to fill their pulpits, and by their presence at the services of the Conference on Sunday evening.

Also for their open homes in which so many delegates have found such royal entertainment.

To all the officers and committees of this Conference for their efficient services during the past three years and throughout this session.

To C. H. Woodworth and Rev. H. E. Mansfield for the inspiring manner in which they conducted the music during Conference.

To the college church choir for their fine musical renditions at the Sunday morning and Sunday evening services.

To Hon. L. M. Webb, our president, for his uniform courtesy and masterly rulings, and to our secretaries for their accuracy of record and prompt replies to inquiries.

To A. L. Freeman for the large and varied display of the Free Baptist publications in the corridor of the church.

To the program committee for advantages in transportation; and to H. S. Myers and Prof. Leroy Waterman for arranging the valuable exhibit of articles of denominational interest.

To President and Mrs. Mauck for the delightful reception given the Conference; to the decorating committee for its tasteful services.

To the joint committee for its untiring services, which have resulted in the very happy consummation of their faithful labors.

And in short to all those who have in any measure contributed to the pleasure and profit of the General Conference.

Be it further Resolved :—

That at this closing hour of the Conference we acknowledge with joyous thanksgiving the signal tokens of God's guiding hand in the work accomplished, in the measures adopted for greater efficiency in carrying on the various branches of our work, in the pledges given and money received for the young people's work in aid of the Unicoi School and for the foreign mission fund, and for subscriptions pledged to *The Morning Star*, aggregating approximately $5,000.

Further :—

That every officer and member of this Conference endeavor to carry into all our denominational work, local, state, and national, the spirit of consecration to larger and better service, and that for the coming of His kingdom whose shall be an everlasting kingdom, each shall go to his field to exemplify the sentiment expressed in an old hymn paraphrased as follows:—

"Thus far the Lord hath led us on,
Thus far his power prolonged our days;
And every conference shall make known
Some fresh memorial of his grace."

Z. A. SPACE,
G. M. CALDWELL,
CLARA PURINTON,
J. W. HAGERTY,
G. V. FREY,
} *Committee.*

Closing remarks were made by the following persons, appreciative of the session, of the work accomplished, of the tasks before us, and of the good fellowship enjoyed :—

Rev. R. R. Kennan, Miss L. A. DeMeritte, Dr. R. D. Lord, Rev. Z. F. Griffin, Rev. Mrs. L. C. Griffin, Rev. Geo. R. Holt, Dr. Arthur Given, Rev. J. E. Gosline, Prof. A. W. Anthony, Hon. L. M. Webb, Prof. J. A. Howe, Geo. F. Mosher, LL. D., Mrs. E. B. Cheney, Dr. A. T. Salley, Rev. Marie McLatchey, Hon. Hiram Knowlton, Mrs. Bradley, Mrs. L. M. P. Durgin, Pres. J. W. Mauck.

The minutes were read and approved.

The closing prayer was offered by Rev. R. D. Lord, D. D., of New York.

On motion of Mawhorter of Indiana, it was then voted to adjourn without date.

N. S. PURINTON, *Clerk.*
E. P. METCALF, *First Assistant Clerk.*
LUCY P. DURGIN, *Second Assistant Clerk.*

Hillsdale, Mich., Sept. 13, 1904.

APPENDIX

CHARTER

State of Maine

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

AN ACT to incorporate the General Conference of Free Baptists

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows :—

SECTION 1. Oren B. Cheney, George H. Ball, Laura A. DeMeritte, Clarence A. Bickford, Nathan C. Brackett, Emeline S. Burlingame, Amanda M. Pendleton, Ethnan W. Porter, Orin D. Patch, George F. Mosher, John T. Ward, Richard M. Lawrence, Lewis W. Anthony, Ellen A. Copp, Alpheus W. Gates, Rufus Deering, Elizabeth Colley, Arthur Given, J. Burnham Davis, Cyrus H. Latham, DeWitt C. Durgin, Eliza M. Jackson, George A. Gordon, Henry J. Brown, Emily L. Marshall, Oscar E. Baker, Charles S. Perkins, their associates and successors, are hereby constituted a corporation for religious, missionary, educational, and charitable purposes, under the name of the General Conference of Free Baptists, and by that name shall have power to prosecute and defend suits at law, to use a common seal and to change the same at pleasure, to take and hold for the objects of said corporation, by gift, grant, bequest, purchase, or otherwise, any estate, real or personal or both, the annual income of which shall not exceed one hundred thousand dollars, and to sell and to convey any estate, real or personal or both, which the interests of said corporation may require to be sold and conveyed.

SEC. 2. The said corporation may choose all necessary officers and adopt such a constitution and such by-laws, the same not being repugnant to the constitution and laws of this State, as they may deem expedient for the management of their affairs from time to time; and they shall be and they are hereby invested with all the powers, privileges, rights, and immunities incident to similar corporations.

SEC. 3. The persons named in the first section of this act as members of the said General Conference of Free Baptists shall be members thereof only until the said Conference shall be duly organized under a constitution and by-laws as provided in Section 2 of this act; and from and after the time when the said Conference shall be thus organized the members thereof shall be such person as may be chosen delegates by the Associations, Yearly Meetings, and other bodies composing the said Conference, and such other persons as the said Conference may designate in the constitution which they may from time to time adopt.

SEC. 4. The said General Conference may appoint a board, to be called the Conference Board, and to consist of as many members as the Conference may deem necessary, to whom full power may be delegated to act for and in behalf of the Conference from one meeting of the Conference to another.

SEC. 5. The said General Conference shall hold their stated meetings for the choice of officers, and for other purposes in some part of the United States of America. They may hold special meetings in any foreign country. Their officers may be residents of the United States of America or of any foreign country, with the exception of their clerk or recording secretary, who shall always be a citizen of the United States of America.

SEC. 6. The Freewill Baptist Foreign Mission Society, incorporated by an act approved January twenty-nine, eighteen hundred and thirty-three, and amended by an act entitled "An Act Additional to An Act to Incorporate the Freewill Baptist Foreign Mission Society," approved February nineteen, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, and amended again by an act entitled "An Act to Amend the Charter of the Freewill Baptist Foreign Mission Society,"

approved January twenty-six, eighteen hundred and eighty-three, are hereby authorized and empowered to transfer and deliver to the said General Conference of Free Baptists all their real and personal property and estate, and all their powers, privileges, rights, and immunities, to be held and used by the said Conference for the purposes mentioned in this act; and upon such transfer and delivery, all the powers, privileges, rights, and immunities of the said society shall be vested in the said General Conference of Free Baptists.

SEC. 7. The Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society, incorporated by an act approved January twenty-six, eighteen hundred and eighty-three, are hereby authorized and empowered to transfer and deliver to the said General Conference of Free Baptists all their real and personal property and estate, and all their powers, privileges, rights, and immunities, to be held and used by the said Conference for the purposes mentioned in this act, and upon such transfer and delivery all the powers, privileges, rights, and immunities of the said society shall be vested in the said Conference.

SEC. 8. The said General Conference shall have the right to hold and use for the purposes mentioned in this act all the real and personal property and estate, and shall be entitled to all the powers, privileges, rights, and immunities of the Freewill Baptist Home Mission Society, a corporation existing under the laws of the State of New Hampshire by an act approved June twenty-eight, eighteen hundred and thirty-eight, and amended by an act approved June twenty-seven, eighteen hundred and fifty-nine, and amended again by an act approved July five, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven, whenever the said society, being duly authorized by the said State of New Hampshire, shall transfer and deliver the same.

SEC. 9. The said General Conference shall have the right to hold and use for the purposes mentioned in this act all the real and personal property and estate, and shall be entitled to all the powers, privileges, rights, and immunities of the Freewill Baptist Education Society, a corporation existing under the laws of the State of New Hampshire, by an act approved July seven, eighteen hundred and forty-six, and amended by an act approved June twenty-nine, eighteen hundred and seventy, entitled "An Act in Amendment of An Act to Incorporate the Freewill Baptist Education Society," when-

ever the said society, being duly authorized by the said State of New Hampshire, shall transfer and deliver the same.

SEC. 10. All property held by the said societies, and all gifts, bequests, devises, and conveyances of property heretofore made to said societies, or which may hereafter be made to them or any of them, shall be held and used by the said Conference for the purpose designated in the making of the several gifts, bequests, devises, and conveyances, and shall be subject to all the conditions, limitations, and uses contained in the several gifts, bequests, devises, and conveyances to said societies.

SEC. 11. Whenever the said societies or any one of them shall transfer their property to the said Conference, the said Conference shall have the right to hold and use for the purposes mentioned in this act the property that may be thus transferred in addition to the sum of personal and real estate authorized to be held in Section 1 of this act.

SEC. 12. If at the time of the transfer and delivery of the real and personal property and estate of the said societies or of any one of them to the said General Conference of Free Baptists, or at any other time, the said societies or any one of them hold any property, gifts, bequests, or devises which are not transferable, said societies or any one of them shall continue to hold and use the property thus held for the purpose designated in making of the gifts, bequests, devises, or conveyances of property thus held.

SEC. 13. It shall not be necessary for more than nine persons mentioned in the first section of this act as corporators to constitute a quorum for the acceptance of this act, and the said Conference shall have the right to fix the number to constitute their quorum from time to time, and also to fix the number to constitute the quorum of their Conference Board.

SEC. 14. Oren B. Cheney, George H. Ball, Laura A. DeMeritte, Clarence A. Bickford, and Nathan C. Brackett, or any five persons mentioned in the first section of this act, may call the first meeting of this corporation by giving notice of the time and place in some paper published in this State at least fourteen days before the time of holding said meeting.

SEC. 15. This act shall take effect when approved.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Jan. 19, 1891.

This bill, having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

BENJAMIN F. CHADBOURNE, *Speaker pro tem.*

IN SENATE, Jan. 19, 1891.

This bill, having had two several readings, passed to be enacted.

CHARLES F. LIBBY, *President.*

Approved Jan. 19, 1891.

EDWIN C. BURLEIGH, *Governor.*

STATE OF MAINE,
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE.

I hereby certify that the paper to which this is attached is a true copy of the original deposited in this office.

In testimony whereof I have caused the seal of the State to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at Augusta, this twentieth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one, and in the one hundred and fifteenth year of the independence of the United States of America.

S. J. CHADBOURNE, *Deputy Secretary of State.*

{ SEAL }

State of New Hampshire

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

AN ACT authorizing the Freewill Baptist Home Mission Society and the Freewill Baptist Education Society to transfer their property and rights to the General Conference of Free Baptists.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:—

SECTION 1. The Freewill Baptist Home Mission Society, a corporation created by the laws of this State by an act approved June

twenty-eight, eighteen hundred and thirty-eight, and the Freewill Baptist Education Society, a corporation created by the laws of this State by an act approved July seven, eighteen hundred and forty-six, are hereby authorized and empowered to transfer and deliver to the General Conference of Free Baptists, a corporation created by the legislature of the State of Maine by an act approved January nineteen, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, all their real and personal property and estate, and all their powers, privileges, and rights to be held and used by said General Conference of Free Baptists, for religious, missionary, educational, and charitable purposes.

SEC. 2. All property held by said Freewill Baptist Home Mission Society and said Freewill Baptist Education Society, and all gifts, bequests, devises, and conveyances of property heretofore made to said societies, or either of them, or which may hereafter be made to them, or either of them, shall be held and used by the said General Conference of Free Baptists for the purpose designated in the making of the several gifts, bequests, and conveyances, and shall be subject to all the conditions, limitations, and uses contained in the several gifts, bequests, devises, and conveyances to said societies respectively, and upon such transfer and delivery the powers, privileges, and rights of said societies respectively shall be vested in said General Conference of Free Baptists.

SEC. 3. If at the time of the transfer and delivery of the real and personal property and estate of said societies to said General Conference of Free Baptists either of the said societies holds any property, gifts, bequests, or devises which are not transferable, said societies shall continue to hold and use the property thus held by them respectively for the purpose designated in the making of the gifts, bequests, devises, or conveyances of property thus held.

SEC. 4. This act shall take effect on its passage.

FRANK G. CLARK, *Speaker House of Reps.*

JOHN MCLANE, *President of Senate.*

Approved Feb. 18, 1891.

HIRAM A. TUTTLE, *Governor.*

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,
SECRETARY'S OFFICE, CONCORD, March 2, 1892.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original act as filed in this office.

In testimony whereof I hereunto subscribe my official signature and affix the seal of the State.

C. B. RANDLETT, *Deputy Secretary of State.*

{ SEAL }

Constitution

[This is the form as finally amended and adopted by the General Conference]

ARTICLE I. The General Conference of Free Baptists shall be composed of delegates from the several bodies now composing the General Conference of the Freewill Baptist Connection in North America,* together with the delegates from such other bodies holding an evangelical faith, believing in the divinity of Christ, a general atonement, the necessity of regeneration, the immersion of believers as the only scriptural baptism, and the communion of all Christians, as may be admitted to the Conference by a two-thirds vote at any regular meeting.

* The General Conference of the Freewill Baptist Connection in North America is composed of the following bodies: The New Hampshire Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Maine Free Baptist Association, the Vermont Yearly Meeting of Free Baptists, the Massachusetts Free Baptist Association, the Rhode Island Free Baptist Association, the Holland Purchase Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Genesee Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Susquehanna Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the St. Lawrence Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the New York Central Free Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Western Pennsylvania Free Baptist Association, the Ohio and Pennsylvania Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Central Ohio Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Ohio Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Ohio River Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Ohio and Kentucy Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the West Virginia Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Indiana Freewill Baptist Association, the Michigan Freewill Baptist Association, the Illinois Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Southern Illinois Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Central Illinois Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Wisconsin Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Minnesota Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Iowa Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Nebraska Yearly Meeting of Free Baptists, the Northern Nebraska Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Northern Kansas Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Southern Kansas Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Golden Gate Free Baptist Association, the Virginia and West Virginia Free Baptist Association, the Kentucky Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Louisiana Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Ontario Free Baptist Association, the Bengal and Orissa Free Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Western Missouri Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Northwestern Missouri Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the South Carolina Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Mississippi Freewill Baptist Yearly Meeting, the Prosperity Free Baptist Association, the Denton Creek Freewill Baptist Association, the Mount Moriah Freewill Baptist Association, the North Missouri Freewill Baptist Association, the Pleasant Hill Freewill Baptist Association, the Union Baptist Association, the Nebraska Central Yearly Meeting, Eastern Pennsylvania Association, the Southwestern Missouri Yearly Meeting, the J. S. Manning Yearly Meeting, New York and Pennsylvania Yearly Meeting, Shenandoah and Piedmont Association, Union Free Baptist Association of Tennessee, Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia, Western Pennsylvania Yearly Meeting, and West Virginia and Kentucky Yearly Meeting.

ART. 2. The object of this Conference shall be to devise and execute measures for the extension of the kingdom of Christ in connection with the various bodies herein represented.

ART. 3. This Conference shall have authority to apportion to the yearly meetings and associations a due ratio of the amount necessary to prosecute the denominational work, and to ask contributions from yearly meetings or associations, quarterly meetings, churches, and individuals, as occasion may require. Gifts and bequests to the various denominational societies shall become the property of this Conference, and be held in trust for the special objects for which they were given, when these societies, singly or severally, shall transfer their work to the Conference.

It shall have the right to discipline, and if necessary to exclude, any association, yearly meeting, or other body belonging to it; but in no case shall it have power to reverse or change the decisions of churches or quarterly meetings.

ART. 4. Each yearly meeting or association belonging to this Conference shall be entitled to representation by one delegate; and every yearly meeting or association whose church communicants amount to one thousand five hundred to two delegates, and one delegate for each additional thousand church members or major part thereof.

ART. 5. There shall be chosen by ballot from persons in good standing in the denomination, who may or may not be members of the Conference, a Conference Board, to consist of twenty-one members, at least one-third of whom shall be women, to which is hereby delegated full power to act for and in behalf of the Conference from one regular meeting of the Conference to another. At the election in 1898 said Board shall be elected for four years, or until July 1, 1902; and at each subsequent meeting of the Conference said Board shall be elected for three years from the time they enter upon the discharge of their duties, which shall be on July 1 in the year succeeding that of their election. The said Board shall have power to choose all needful officers, adopt all rules needful for its own government, and to carry out the plans and undertakings of the Conference, make contracts, employ agents, authorize the execution of legal papers, collect and appropriate

funds, and exercise all the powers and functions of the General Conference not in conflict with its rules, resolutions, and directions. It shall keep a correct record of all its proceedings, make a full report at each regular session of the Conference, and be subject to and comply with all directions, requests, and regulations of the Conference. Nine members of this Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. All members of the Conference Board shall be members *ex officio* of the Conference.

ART. 6. The officers of this Conference shall be a president, two vice-presidents, a clerk, an assistant clerk, a treasurer, corresponding secretary, and an auditor, all to be chosen by ballot, who shall respectively hold office until the next regular Conference and until others shall be chosen and qualified in their stead. The clerk, assistant clerk, treasurer, corresponding secretary, and auditor may be chosen from persons who are not members of this Conference.

ART. 7. The president shall preside in all meetings of the Conference, and, unless it is otherwise ordered, appoint all the committees necessary to be appointed.

One of the vice-presidents shall preside in the absence of the president, and in the absence of both vice-presidents a president *pro tem.* shall be chosen.

The clerk and assistant clerk shall take the required oath of office before a magistrate, keep a true record of the doings of the Conference, and certify that the same is true.

The clerk shall be a resident of the State of Maine, and shall keep a clerk's office in said State in accordance with the laws thereof.

The treasurer shall give bonds satisfactory to the Conference Board, and shall receive and dispose of all moneys paid into the treasury under the direction of the Conference Board, and keep an accurate account of the same, and make a full report quarterly and at such other times as he shall be requested by the Board of the Conference, which report shall be published in at least two of the denominational papers. The treasurer shall be a member *ex officio* of the Conference.

The corresponding secretary shall be the executive officer of the

General Conference, acting under its direction and the direction of the Conference Board or of the executive committee.

The auditor shall at least once a year make a careful examination of the accounts and vouchers of the treasurer, and submit the same to the Conference Board.

ART. 8. The president and treasurer shall sign all deeds, bonds, notes, etc., and other papers by which the Conference is to become legally held.

ART. 9. Vacancies occurring by death, resignation, or otherwise in the delegation of any association, yearly meeting, or other body belonging to the Conference, may be filled by the body in which the vacancy occurs in any way it may elect. Vacancies occurring in the Conference Board, or in any office of the Conference or of the Conference Board, shall be filled by the Conference Board.

ART. 10. A meeting of the General Conference, to be called by the clerk or president, shall be held every third year, in August or September, or at such time and place as the Conference or Conference Board may determine, the time and place being given in some paper published in the State of Maine, and in at least two of the denominational papers, if such exist, at least ninety days before the time of holding said meeting. Special meetings at the direction of the Conference Board may be called in the same way, provided that notice shall be sent to each member of the Conference, post prepaid, directed to his last known address, thirty days before the time of holding such meeting.

ART. 11. Thirty-three members of the Conference shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a less number may call to order and adjourn.

ART. 12. This Constitution may be amended at any triennial session by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided such amendment has been proposed in writing at a previous session by a member of the Conference, or proposed in writing at any time by the Conference Board, a yearly meeting, or an association, due notice of the proposed change or changes having been given at least six months beforehand in a paper published in the State of *Maine, and in not* less than two denominational papers, if such *exist.*

By-Laws

1. (1) Nominations for the Conference Board shall be made from the floor, no speeches being allowed in making nominations.

(2) The names of all persons nominated shall be printed in alphabetical order, in suitable form and sufficient number to be used as ballots, space being left for the insertion of additional names.

(3) The ballot shall be for the twenty-one members of the Board on one ballot, names of all for whom the member does *not* wish to vote being erased.

(4) A ballot for more than twenty-one persons, or for less than seven women, shall not be counted.

2. It shall be the duty of every yearly meeting, association, or other body belonging to the Conference to send a letter to every triennial meeting of the Conference, reporting in the same its spiritual condition, its works of benevolence, and its statistics. Any yearly meeting, association, or other body belonging to the Conference, which shall fail to report itself for two successive sessions may be dismissed from the Conference by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

3. Each meeting of the Conference shall be opened by prayer.

4. At each regular session of the Conference the following standing committees shall be appointed: The Denomination, Doctrine, Church Polity, Education, Sunday Schools, Temperance, The Country, The Ministry, Publications, Home Missions, The New West, Foreign Missions, Requests, Correspondence, Young People's Work, Bible Cause, Finance, Closing Resolutions, and on Ministerial Record, which last committee shall report at the next triennial session of the General Conference after its appointment. It shall be the duty of the finance committee to assist the treasurer in making and managing investments, and to make an annual report of the condition of the same to the Conference Board; said committee may or may not be members of the General Conference.

All petitions and communications on particular subjects shall be referred to their appropriate committees. Special committees may be appointed at the pleasure of the Conference.

5. This Conference may correspond by messenger or otherwise with other religious bodies.

6. This Conference shall sit with open doors except when it may go into committee of the whole.

7. Any person not a member of this Conference may be allowed to take part in its discussions by obtaining permission of the Conference.

8. It shall be the duty of all the members of this Conference to be present at the time appointed for each meeting, and any one wishing to retire shall first obtain leave of the chair.

9. No member shall absent himself from Conference during its meetings without first obtaining permission from the Conference.

10. No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of any committee, provided the person nominated be elected.

11. The yeas and nays may be taken on any question by request of one-fifth of the members present.

12. No member of this Conference shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes, and but once on the same subject, without permission of the Conference.

13. These By-Laws may be changed or amended, at any meeting regularly called, by a two-thirds vote of those present, provided notice of the proposed change or amendment be inserted in the call for the meeting, or given at a meeting of the Conference previously held.

By-Laws of Conference Board

1. The officers of this Board shall be a president, vice-president, recording secretary, assistant recording secretary, field secretary, and an executive committee of seven, of which the president and recording secretary shall be members to be elected at each annual meeting. The recording secretary and field secretary shall hold their offices until others are chosen and qualify in their stead, and they may or may not be members of the Conference Board.

2. The president, vice-president, and recording secretary shall perform the usual duties of such officers. The field secretary shall act as an executive under the direction of the Board and of the executive committee. The executive committee shall have general charge and direction of the work of the Board not otherwise provided for between the meetings of the Board subject to the instruction and approval of the Board, and shall make a full report to the Board of each meeting. They shall have the power to fill any vacancy in the committee between the meetings of the Board.

3. There shall be an annual meeting of the Conference Board with anniversary exercises, during August or September, or at such time or in such place as the executive committee shall determine. Special meetings for business only may be called at any time by the executive committee.

4. The recording secretary shall mail to each member a notice of the time and place of holding each meeting of the Board, and shall publish such notice in at least two denominational papers, if such exist, said notice to be mailed and published not less than four weeks before the time for holding such meeting.

RULES OF ORDER

1. Each meeting of the Conference Board shall be opened by prayer.

2. Any member of the Board not able to be present at a meeting of the Board shall report the reason for absence to the secretary prior to the meeting.

3. No member shall absent himself from the Board during its meetings without obtaining permission from the Board. Members violating this rule shall forfeit their traveling expenses.

4. The order of business at meetings of the Board shall be as follows:—

(1) Call to order.
(2) Roll-call.
(3) Prayer.
(4) Reading minutes.
(5) Report of committees.
(6) Unfinished business.
(7) Election of officers.
(8) New business.
(9) Adjournment.

5. These By-Laws and Rules may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting of the Board.

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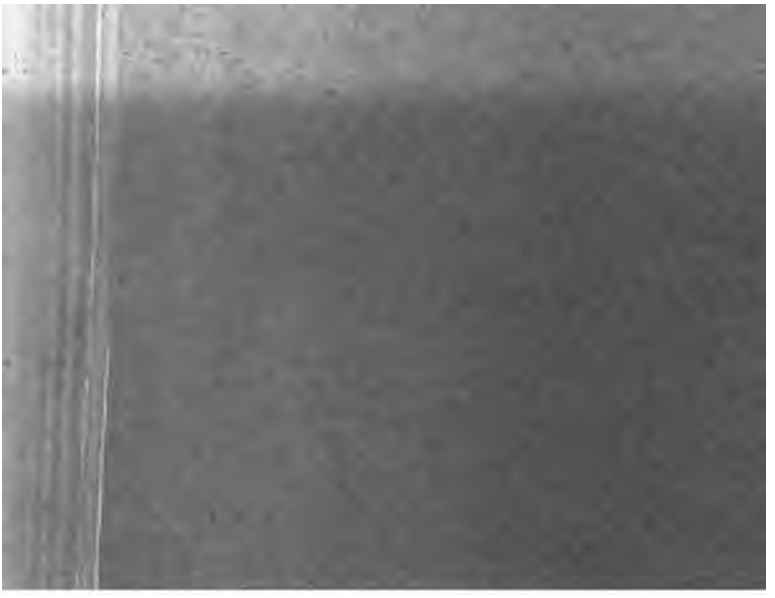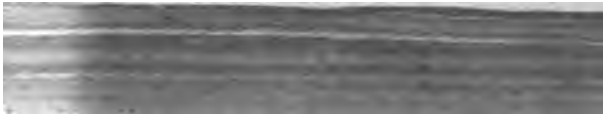
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